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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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14 June 1985

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

OAU'S ONU ON WEST'S MORAL OBLIGATION TOWARD AFRICA

AB191356 Paris AFP in French 0836 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Gaborone, 18 May (AFP)--Western countries are "morally" bound to pay for the riches they looted from Africa during the colonial era by giving food aid to the countries affected by the drought, acting OAU Secretary General Peter Onu stated Friday.

Mr Onu, who arrived in Botswana on Wednesday, stated at a press conference that the West's economic power was acquired from the cheap labor offered it by the thousands of blacks it had sent away as slaves.

Concerning South Africa, Mr Onu stated that the OAU has adopted "an important strategy" in order to free that country from the domination of the "white minority," but refused to say more about it in order not to inform "the enemy" beforehand.

Mr Onu, who was on the last leg of a four-nation tour of Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Botswana in order to assess the effects of the drought, had to return to Addis Ababa on Friday night.

CSO: 3400/275

ANGOLA

IMPASSE WITH SOUTH AFRICA REGARDING NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE

Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 20 Apr 85 p 11

[Article by Benjamin Formigo and Alves Gomes]

[Text] Four countries belonging to the Contact Group met secretly in Ottawa, Canada on Friday of last week and warned South Africa in advance that any solutions for Namibia that did not comply with UN Resolution 435 would be invalid.

Great Britain, the United States, Canada, and the FRG--France, originally a member of the group, having backed out--met at the end of last week to examine the impasse reached in the talks between Angola and South Africa and also to analyze the transitional government in Namibia that is being planned in defiance of UN Resolution 435.

The four countries informed the Pretoria government that they regarded as totally unacceptable any solution other than that approved by the UN in 1978--which demands Namibia's independence and the holding of elections under international supervision on the basis of one man, one vote, with participation by SWAPO.

Those efforts proved fruitless. The South African Government rejected the pressures in question and announced on Thursday of this week that a transitional government would be set up in Windhoek. The administration favored by Pretoria includes only members of the Multiparty Conference (MPC) and excludes SWAPO, which has been struggling for 18 years against South African domination of Namibian territory.

The announced transitional government will be dependent on Pretoria in matters of foreign policy, defense, and security, and the legislation it passes will have to be approved by the territory's general administrator as the direct representative of the South African Government.

That solution, which was rejected immediately by Great Britain and later by the United States, was also rejected by the Nonaligned Movement, which devoted the meeting on Thursday by its ministers of foreign affairs to Namibia.

In turn, a spokesman for SWAPO said during an interview with the BBC that his movement was "ready to negotiate, sign a peace agreement immediately, and hold democratic elections under international supervision." In view of the current South African behavior, "there is no solution other than intensified armed struggle."

Withdrawal From Angola

Early in the week, meanwhile, "Pik" Botha, South Africa's minister of foreign affairs and information, had announced the immediate withdrawal of the South African troops that had been stationed in southern Angola since the invasion in December 1983.

According to Botha's statements, South Africa's military presence on Angolan soil had become unnecessary owing to the alleged "defeat of SWAPO." Also according to the minister of foreign affairs and information in Pretoria, that movement had suffered serious defeats since the start of this year and, as a result, was incapable of conducting its usual big offensive during the rainy season.

Other sources say, however, that the slowdown in SWAPO's military activity has been due not so much to the South African military presence in Angola as to the deep splits affecting Sam Njoma's organization.

In announcing the South African withdrawal, "Pik" Botha reminded the Luanda government of "its responsibility to control the activity" of that Namibian nationalist movement. The head of the army, Gen Jannie Geldenhuys, spoke along the same lines when he talked to reporters on the border between the former Portuguese colony and Namibia on Thursday, the day when the withdrawal from Angola was completed. He said: "If the MPLA government lets the situation" (meaning SWAPO activity) "deteriorate to the point that it becomes a threat to Namibia, consideration may be given to a resumption of our operations across the border."

Cubans

The South African minister of foreign affairs and information also said he hoped that the withdrawal of his troops would foster the conditions for a start on withdrawing the Cuban troops stationed in Angola, namely in Cunene Province, where South African military activity has been felt most strongly in recent years.

In February 1984, South Africans and Angolans agreed in Lusaka on a plan for the withdrawal of South African and Cuban troops from Angola. According to that plan, the forces that had invaded Cunene Province in southern Angola in December 1983 would withdraw within 3 months--from that date--under the supervision of a joint military commission and a representative of the U.S. State Department. In its first stage, the South African withdrawal was to stop at least 30 kilometers south of the frontier between Namibia and Angola. In exchange, Havana's forces would leave Cunene and begin the process of withdrawing 15,000 of the 25,000 Cubans stationed in Angola.

For a specified period of time, 10,000 Cuban soldiers were to remain in the Luanda area to protect the capital from any onslaughts by UNITA.

In fact, the South African forces did not withdraw to a line 30 kilometers south of the frontier. A small detachment is still present at Ruacana Dam on the Cunene River, where it occupies a hydroelectric plant whose production (300 Mw on the Angolan side) now supplies Pretoria's military installations in northern Namibia.

"Divisive Maneuver"?

As we go to press, Luanda has not commented on the announced South African withdrawal. Diplomatic observers are definite, however, in stating that Pretoria's attitude "was a divisive maneuver" aimed at minimizing the damage done by its announcement of a transitional government for Namibia in defiance of UN Resolution 435--one of the few decisions by that forum to have the consent of the superpowers.

For a certain period, the military occupation of the southern part of the former Portuguese colony by Pretoria's troops made it possible for UNITA to expand its activities by moving from its theater of operations in the east--the area to which Portuguese troops had managed to restrict its activity in the early 1970's--to the northern part of the country. The logistic support provided by Pretoria to the movement headed by Jonas Savimbi enabled UNITA to establish lines of infiltration and strong points which, in a territory presenting inherently favorable conditions, have been giving it considerable freedom of movement in eastern Angola.

The South African withdrawal will not change this situation, since direct military involvement was suspended quite some time ago. To cut UNITA's supply line, FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] would have to control the entire boundary line and its adjacent areas, and that is virtually impossible.

Moving about in a territory that has one inhabitant for each 5 square kilometers, Jonas Savimbi's movement will therefore be able to continue its activity for quite some time, just as the Luanda government will be able to combat it for quite some time.

The cost of prolonging guerrilla warfare will be reflected in Angola's economic and social development and its foreign relations.

Sabotage and kidnappings will certainly be the chief threats that Jose Eduardo dos Santos' government will have to face. The territory's geography and its low population density make it possible to move across country for hundreds of kilometers, and even when a column is detected by air reconnaissance, it has time to escape before being attacked at all: "an experience that Portuguese troops were well acquainted with during the colonial war," recalls a former Portuguese Army officer who until just recently was a military adviser in Angola.

Portuguese Antiguerrilla Tactics

UNITA's main card since the start of the antigovernment guerrilla warfare has been FAPLA's technical dependence on Soviet military advisers.

Large units supported by armor and aircraft were thrown into the battle against the guerrillas, but those methods proved to be completely ineffective and allowed the movement to infiltrate traditionally strong MPLA areas.

The tactics used by FAPLA apparently began to change with the return of Iko Carreira--a report that we have been unable to confirm--and the presence of Portuguese military advisers. FAPLA then adopted the antiguerrilla methods used by the Portuguese Army, with an emphasis on small combat groups that are extremely mobile, transported by helicopter, and supported by armed helicopters: "a highly efficient weapon," according to the same former Portuguese officer.

Major Farrusco's commandos were sent into the area around Luanda, which they cleaned up, and they then moved into the Malange region, where they did the same. UNITA reportedly was then forced to pull back to its original positions, where it has considerable freedom of movement.

In addition, FAPLA established important defenses on the perimeter of geographically favorable zones, from where it was able to resist the South African advance in December 1983 and the constant air attacks by Pretoria.

War Effort

Since Luanda is making a sizable war effort on the economic, political, and social levels, the country's economy has not been progressing as one would expect, in view of its resources. The arrival of technicians from East Europe, who were unfamiliar with Africa, did not have any positive effects. "It was on the basis of their mistakes that the new Angolan cadres, who had been trained in the meantime, were able to restart part of the economy," says a former Portuguese cooperant who has recently returned. Foreign technicians also changed their attitude and converted Angolan agriculture back to its traditional ways.

The Luanda government has launched an intensive program of support for agricultural development in recent years, and some results can already be seen. The areas must be kept under constant surveillance by FAPLA, however, to prevent attacks by UNITA.

Coffee production has risen again. It is estimated that last year's exports totaled 40,000 tons following the lessons learned from the collapse of the state-owned ENCAFE [National Coffee Company], which was established shortly after independence. Coffee is produced principally by small growers, and about 300,000 families currently work on the plantations.

Another important source of revenue is petroleum, production of which should total 18.5 million barrels this year. Cabinda Gulf, which paid the Angolan Government in advance for all production in 1985 and the first half of 1986--thus enabling the government of Jose Eduardo dos Santos to obtain currency

immediately--has decided to invest \$100 million annually in offshore exploration in Cabinda Province.

Fishing is another sector in which the Luanda government is trying to invest. This year's catch should show a considerable increase following the acquisition of 37 fishing boats from Spain last year. Since 1982, the annual catch has totaled between 90,000 and 100,000 tons, or less than one-third of what it was before independence. It should be recalled that after 1975, most of the Portuguese fishermen chose to move to South Africa or return to Portugal.

However, the Angolan fishing fleet must face strong competition from the Soviet vessels that operate in its exclusive economic zone using the most advanced fishing technology in the world.

11798

CSO: 3442/282

ANGOLA

PORTUGUESE COMPANY MAY COOPERATE IN DIAMOND PROSPECTING

Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese 14 Apr 85 p 48

[Text] A Portuguese company could come to cooperate closely with Angolan authorities in diamond exploitation, one of the major resources of the country, it was learned by O JORNAL from a good source.

Administrators of the Portuguese Ventures Company (SPE) should go shortly to Luanda for this purpose and presumably to the province of Luanda, where the very rich deposits exploited by the Angola Diamond Company (DIAMANG) are located.

It is not known what exact form of possible help would be accepted by Angolan authorities in that matter, but it is believed that the SPE will be in a position to offer technical support, as well as services in mastering the sale of diamonds.

O JORNAL did not manage to obtain from the PSE administration any confirmation or denial of the report, which, however, can be interpreted as the result of an understandable desire by the officials of the company that negotiations underway not be prejudiced by "leaks of information" to which Luanda could be particularly sensitive.

DIAMANG was nationalized by the Luanda Government on 30 August 1977. At that time the Angolan State took over control of the company by nationalizing the 852,755 shares (60.85 percent of the public shares) which did not yet belong to it and which were distributed among a large number of shareholders.

More recently, specifically last year, Angolan diamonds were in the news again with the breakup of an international network of traffickers, which had the alleged involvement of Portuguese citizens.

8908
CSO: 3442/283

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

NEW OFFICIAL IN KUITO KUANAVALA--Yesterday, during a public meeting, Maj Mateus Miguel Angelo (Vietnam), member of the Kuando Kubango regional military council, introduced to the people of that locality Capt Garcia Domingos, the new Coordinator of the Party Municipal Committee and Commissioner of the Kuito Kuanavale municipality. Following the presentation Major "Vietnam" met with local party and government authorities as well as with military and civilians to whom he explained the present situation of the government, urging them to become involved in the works of production and vigilance, in order to combat the enemies of the Angolan revolution, who are doing everything possible to hinder the socio-economic development of the province. It is worth noting that the people of Kuito Kuanavale county are devoting themselves to agriculture, having already formed about 20 farmers' associations, which lack the support of the province's agricultural structure. Fishing occupies an important place in the development of that municipality so they established a fish cooperative enterprise which works with the primitive means at its disposal. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Apr 85 p 3] 8870

FRG DONATION TO CUNENE REFUGEES--The government of the German Federal Republic, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Bonn, has just made a donation of 850,000 DM (about US\$ 260,000) for a project in Southern Angola, thus helping to ease the situation of the war refugees in the South of the country. The donation is intended to buy 60,000 awnings and a cistern truck. Although there is not yet any bilateral agreement between the Angolan and German governments, owing to legal problems, this country's embassy is pleased to make this gesture on the part of its government and hopes that it will be possible, in the future, to increase the German contribution for national reconstruction. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Apr 85 p 12] 8870

KWANZA NORTE RECRUIT CANDIDATES ADDRESSED--Members of the Kazengo Municipal Secretariat of the party JMPLA [Youth movement of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] visited the Quirima meeting center (15 kms from N'Dalatando) where they had a friendly meeting with the recruit candidates who have voluntarily applied for the performance of their military duties. The Kazengo 1st municipal secretary of the JMPLA, Martino Rodrigues, was delighted with the group's allegiance, the patriotic and revolutionary spirit of the Kwanza-Norte youth, stressing that it demanded courage, determination and revolutionary awareness to achieve the people's happiness, for youth is the

transforming force of any society. After mentioning youth's role in the present stage of the Angolan revolution, he appealed to future FAPLA [Armed Forces of the People's Liberation of Angola] to honor the person of the heroic Commander Hoji-Ya-Henda, symbol of Angolan youth. In their turn, the recruit candidates declared themselves ready to defend Agostinho Neto's country and to close ranks around President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the central committee of the MPLA [People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Labor Party. Meanwhile, the Political Commissioner of the Kwanza-Norte CRM (Revolutionary Committee of the Militia), Lieutenant Salvador confirmed to ANGOP [Angola News Agency] that the recruitment plan for the province had been met since youth's allegiance to their presence in the FAPLA military service has become more and more evident. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 11 Apr 85 p 2] 8870

FISHING INDUSTRY DIFFICULTIES DESCRIBED--Angolan Minister of Fishing Emilio Guerra said in Benguela that the outmoded condition of a large number of vessels and the tardiness of their repairs together with the lack of spare parts hinder any continued work in this sector. Emilio Guerra, who spoke at the opening meeting of the Ninth Advisory Council of his Ministry, which has been in session since the morning of day before yesterday in this city, showed his concern with these matters which became evident about 2 years ago in Kwanza-Sul Province. He made it clear that the constant erosion of the coastline is considered of great concern. During the two working days, the Advisory Council of the Ministry of Fishing is going to analyze the report of activities developed during 1984 and plan new undertakings. To this proposal, Emilio Guerra recommended that the meeting should study the mistakes made and suggest more realistic and practical ways which make possible the materialization of definite directions by the party and government. National leaders, delegates, provincial administrators and other officials on various levels of the Ministry of Fishing are participating in the activities. It is noted that in addition to those invited to the opening session, Alexandrino Silva, the Provincial Deputy Commissioner of Benguela, was present. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 11 Apr 85 p 3] 8870

3442/274

CAPE VERDE

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL, DEVELOPMENT

Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese 19 Apr 85 p 20

[Interview with Cape Verde President Aristides Pereira by Antonio Duarte of O JORNAL on the Isle of Sao Vicente in Cape Verde; date and time not given]

[Text] A discreet optimism with respect to the development of relations between Portugal and the Group of Five was expressed to O JORNAL by Cape Verde President Aristides Pereira. In an exclusive interview he granted us on the Isle of Sao Vicente in Cape Verde, Aristides Pereira declared that tensions between Portugal and the five "are more or less a thing of the past" and he said that those who are interested in the deterioration of our relations "can only be the enemies of Portugal or of any of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries."

The in-depth interview also focuses on the economic-social development of Cape Verde in 10 years of independence, as well as the dialogue being undertaken in southern Africa sponsored by the Cape Verde authorities.

O JORNAL: Ten years after independence Cape Verde is the only one of the five African countries with Portuguese as an official language which has registered significant economic and social development progress. What is the secret of the Cape Verde success?

Aristides Pereira: I believe there is no special secret. We have established the search for ways and means for the development of the country on the knowledge, the most in-depth possible, of our situation in all its ramifications, including our human situation. On the basis of that, and also establishing the bases of our domestic policy in the sense of unity and stability, we can say that we have achieved positive results. We think that it is on that basis that we have been able to register the successes we have obtained in the launching of the minimum bases for the construction of a viable state.

With respect to the other countries, I believe that it is up to their officials to give the necessary reply. However, we must not avoid emphasizing, for example, the situation which exists in Angola and Mozambique, a war situation which brings as a consequence everything that the people know a war brings. Without that war situation, Angola and Mozambique are countries which because of their material potentials could have already reached a great milestone on the road of development.

Development Plan is 75 Percent Fulfilled

O JORNAL: Have all the goals of the National Development Plan still current been achieved in Cape Verde? What are the objectives of the next plan to be approved in May?

Aristides Pereira: There I think it would be worthwhile to recall the objectives of the first plan. Essentially, there are five points: the struggle against desert encroachment and erosion; satisfaction of the basic needs of the population; unification of the national economic space; strengthening of the economic team of the state; and the training of cadres.

At this time we are approaching the end of the first National Development Plan, and although the pertinent services are still engaged in making the most exhaustive and objective accounting possible, I must, however, say that the balance is positive.

As of now we calculate that the level of financial accomplishment of the first plan will be 75-percent fulfilled, which is sufficient proof of the realism which presided over the preparation of our first plan.

The quantitative objectives are being fulfilled, particularly in the sector of rural development, where practically all the projects foreseen are being executed at a rate of almost total accomplishment. Such are the cases of reforestation, mobilization and evaluation of water resources and the conservation of soil and water.

The important objective of unification of national territory on the basis of the construction of a port and road infrastructure, is being reached in a satisfactory manner.

We must say, therefore, that the balance is positive. Evidently, however, the government is going to take steps in the sectors where advances are not matching expectations.

O JORNAL: Which were they, Mr President?

Aristides Pereira: Essentially the industrial and fishing sectors. With respect to the sector of tourism, its development continues to be a subject of study.

Now, with respect to the objectives of the second plan, we can say that our strategy is within the framework of preparing a study of revising the prospects of long-range economic development in Cape Verde in the light of the experience acquired in the economic management of the country and taking into account the recent developments in the world economy. In a certain way, the second plan will also be a continuation of the first.

Is Cooperation with Portugal Worthwhile?

O JORNAL: What is the role of cooperation with Portugal in the economic, social and cultural development of Cape Verde?

Aristides Pereira: We consider that role important and we think that it will continue to be worthwhile. Among the areas of greater interest where the benefit of Portuguese cooperation is the most obvious and visible, is in the area of training cadres and in technical assistance. In this aspect, and particularly in the training of cadres, however, it seems to us that it is possible to do better on one side and on the other. This means that if we worked in a more systematized and planned manner, we can improve that sector of cooperation, which we consider to be of major importance. And that is not all, that also applies to university training, professional training, training of specialists and the training of teachers in the priority disciplines for our development.

Another sector of great interest in cooperation with Portugal is that of technical assistance within the framework of accomplishing development projects. Also there is already the practice of help by Portuguese companies in projects underway in Cape Verde. This, without ignoring other areas in which we think a development of cooperation with Portugal would be possible, particularly in the area of economic cooperation with the question of using intermediate technologies. In short, they are areas in which I think with time, with patient work on both sides, we shall achieve something significant.

"The secret of progress is dissatisfaction"

O JORNAL: I should, therefore, Mr President, presume that you do not yet consider the level of Portuguese cooperation in Cape Verde satisfactory?

Aristides Pereira: You know, the secret of progress is dissatisfaction. I think it is necessary that we not be satisfied so that we will strive to do better.

O JORNAL: Mr President, how would you at this time classify relations of Portugal with Cape Verde and, on the other hand, with all of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries?

Aristides Pereira: I must say that we consider the relations of Cape Verde with Portugal to be correct. They are relations between two states which respect each other and which know full well how to defend their own interests.

As far as the relations of Portugal with the five Portuguese-speaking African countries are concerned, it is difficult to speak with respect to third parties--and we frequently refrain from doing so as a matter of custom. However, as far as we are concerned, we would describe relations between Portugal and the Five as being in a transition phase. On one side and the other we feel that we are seeking better paths for a perfect understanding of the realities of each one and also to make it possible in fact to establish better relations between Portugal and the Five, since I believe that at the bottom there exists that desire on both sides.

"I would be in no condition to 'warn' the Portuguese Government"

O JORNAL: Mr President, you warned the Portuguese Government after the recent summit at Sao Tome, that if Portugal does not take "suitable measures" against those in its territory who conspire against Angola and Mozambique, "there could be difficulties in relationships between us" (quote from the Portuguese press). In your opinion, Mr President, who would be interested in the deterioration of relations between Portugal and the Five?

Aristides Pereira: I must begin by saying that I would be in no condition to warn the Portuguese Government, nor would that be my role. What we said in Bissau upon our return from Sao Tome was that if the entire present situation were to continue with nothing being done in Portugal to improve it, it is obvious that those relations would continue to erode. I have no doubts at all that the countries in question, Angola and Mozambique, would be willing to take measures which in their opinion would be proper. They would, up to a certain point, show their dissatisfaction with the behavior of the Portuguese Government. In such a case, the Five would obviously have the duty of solidarity. Therefore, we could have problems. However, I think that is something which is more or less a thing of the past at this time. That is the impression I have.

As for who would be interested in the deterioration of relations between Portugal and the Five, I believe that it could only be the enemies of Portugal or of any of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries.

"There is no government that has no opposition"

O JORNAL: Is there an opposition in Cape Verde? If it exists, what is the margin of freedom for its movements in the territory of Cape Verde?

Aristides Pereira: You know, according to a law of life it appears that there is no government, regime or system that does not have an opposition.

This is based on the principle that whoever is in opposition has different ideas or is even against the interests of the country. If we consider ideas that are different than ours or contrary to ours as opposition, we can say that we have an opposition, as there is opposition everywhere. There is no government that can afford the luxury of saying that it has no opposition.

However, opposition in another sense, in the European sense, is something we deny because we avoid copying other systems blindly, without taking our own situation into account.

We have one objective situation, we seek to act according to that situation, and we are about to make a reality of an experience of instituting democracy in our country in which the field will be open to all people of Cape Verde to express themselves pursuant to the prerogatives conferred upon them by our constitution. We created the conditions for the broadest possible participation by all citizens in public life of the country and we think conditions are also created so that all trends of thought can be expressed and demonstrated.

"We received the ETA for humanitarian reasons"

O JORNAL: Cape Verde has received some members of the ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty Group], who were deported by the Spanish Government, into its territory. That fact caused some surprise in Portugal and Spain.

Mr President, why did you accept the deported Basque guerrillas?

Aristides Pereira: We received those members of the ETA mainly because of humanitarian reasons. It is not up to us to judge the justice or lack of justice of the Basque struggle, or at least of that sector of the Basque population. However, we think that on the basis of the experiences we have from our own national liberation, we should have taken them in for humanitarian reasons. It was on the basis of that criteria that we adopted that decision. It is also because of the good relations existing between our government and the Spanish Government.

"Cape Verde is not for sale"

O JORNAL: At the time of the deportation of the Basque refugees, the Portuguese press spoke of Spanish reprisals against Cape Verde.

Was there actually a Spanish reprisal on the level of bilateral cooperation?

Aristides Pereira: It is necessary to say that I consider--and I am not referring to you--the question offensive, not so say insulting. It directly affects the dignity of a sovereign country and also of people who are not for sale. We are proud to be people who are not for sale. Cape Verde is not for sale.

To base matters on the principle that Cape Verde could only adopt measures such as that only on the basis of reciprocity--whatever it could be--that would be something almost insulting, which we reject. I must say that this political decision was adopted with full sovereignty and on the basis of principles we follow regardless of the type of reciprocity. We consider any proposal of that type an insult.

"Diversify and expand the ranks of the countries that cooperate"

O JORNAL: It is a fact that Spain and France have significantly increased their cooperation with Cape Verde.

Will the attention of Cape Verde turn to these countries in the near future in the field of cooperation and trade exchange?

Aristides Pereira: Our attention will be turned toward all the countries which are willing to open up for cooperation with us. Taking into consideration our objective and real conditions as a small country with limited natural resources, and also given the persistence of the drought in the area and the situation of the world economy, all that causes Cape Verde to be a country that is extremely dependent on other countries. On that basis, it would be a great error to concentrate our cooperation with a minimum of countries.

Our political strategy is precisely that of diversifying and expanding the ranks of countries which maintain relations of cooperation and solidarity with us.

"Our interest in the Canary Islands is justified."

O JORNAL: However, Cape Verde is lately paying special attention to the Canaries...

Aristides Pereira: I must say that our interest in the Canaries is normal. We have the duty to advance to the maximum our projects of reestablishment of the ecological balance of our country. In that respect, Spain, and particularly the Canary Islands, have an extremely interesting experience which is very like ours.

Although the situation in the Canaries is different than that of Cape Verde, there is no doubt that, taking into account the nature of those islands--volcanic like ours although they have more water and rainfall than Cape Verde--we are particularly interested in the work that has been done in them for the protection of soil and the creation of artificial surfaces against erosion and desert encroachment, as well as in the research and retention of water. Therefore, our special interest in the Canaries is justified.

"Great Difficulties" in Cooperation Among the Five

O JORNAL: What progress has been made in cooperation among the five Portuguese-speaking African countries?

Aristides Pereira: We can say that the progress that has been made is limited to the little that was done in the past 2 years. We have encountered great difficulties resulting from the war situation in Angola and Mozambique. However, I must say that progress has been made essentially with respect to a much deeper awareness, and therefore more in keeping with our realities.

Thus, we are building a much firmer base for cooperation in the future. On the other hand, as much as possible, we are harmonizing our actions so as to derive the most advantage from the efforts we are making.

South Africa: "Understanding is not easy."

O JORNAL: Cape Verde continues to assume the position of mediator within the Group of Five between Angola, South Africa and the United States, but progress in this policy of dialogue is still not seen. Why is that Mr President?

Aristides Pereira: That is normal. Interests of the most varied are meeting face to face in southern Africa. There are even antagonistic interests. To conciliate all those interests and to arrive at a plateau of understanding is not easy. Therefore all that delay in the progress of conversations is justified up to a certain point.

I must say, however, that all processes of that type are long and many times take years. At any rate, the dialogue that is surviving must be nurtured and strengthened.

"N'Komati allows the evaluation of the intentions of each one."

O JORNAL: Mr President, in your opinion, what are the ideal and at the same time realistic solutions for the establishment of peace in Mozambique and Angola?

Aristides Pereira: First of all, solutions must acknowledge the sovereignty of all the countries of the area; therefore, the right to live in peace within ones borders. On the other hand, it is necessary that a climate of dialogue and harmony be instituted among the countries of the area, in the certainty that, providing there is a political willingness, coexistence is possible between countries with different systems of government.

It must be particularly kept in mind that the question of "apartheid" is a system which is universally condemned. As long as the South African leaders do not find a suitable solution to the problem, it will be extremely difficult to achieve the necessary peace. However, as a first phase, I believe that the acknowledgement of the right to live under any regime of all the countries of the area will be an important step for beginning to have a life of peace and harmony.

O JORNAL: Is the N'Komati agreement worthwhile?

Aristides Pereira: Yes it is. According to the N'Komati Agreement, through its compliance or lack of it, it will be easier to make an evaluation of the forces in play and the intentions of each one.

"Our army is almost symbolic"

O JORNAL: Do you, Mr President, confirm the report disseminated in Portugal that troops of Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe would go to fight in Angola and Mozambique against UNITA and RENAMO?

Aristides Pereira: On the contrary, I refute that report. Even if we were to express our solidarity with Angola and Mozambique through the symbolic sending of detachments of our small armies, it would not be realistic to do so. Taking the limitations of Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome into consideration, we are much more interested in showing that solidarity by means of a vigorous diplomatic-political action, than by sending a few hundred men, who could really not have any influence on the resolution of the problems.

O JORNAL: On the other hand, would the Cape Verde Army be prepared for such a situation?

Aristides Pereira: In no way. I must say that our army is almost symbolic, for the defense of our sovereignty. We do not want to appear as a country that may really have an army. We act pursuant to the rules of a sovereign country but our army is absolutely defensive and almost symbolic.

"All countries that could contribute to peace in southern Africa should do so"

O JORNAL: Some months ago much was being said of the role that Portugal could also have in the establishment of peace in southern Africa as a result of its good relations with the Five, South Africa and the United States.

Do you, Mr President, believe that Portugal can or should assume that role at this time?

Aristides Pereira: Since this is a matter which has to do with the entire world, a matter of peace in southern Africa, I believe that all countries that could, and have that possibility and will, should do so. It is not up to us to indicate whether Portugal should or should not assume that role. It is up to its government leaders to say that. However, in our opinion, the entire country, if it can contribute to the acceleration of the solution of the situation in southern Africa, should do so.

"Controversy with Guinea-Bissau is being resolved"

O JORNAL: How are relations between Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau now? Are there relations between the two parties?

Aristides Pereira: Relations between Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau are normal at the state level. We already have an ambassador accredited in Bissau. Bissau already gave its approval to the ambassador, who should present his credentials soon. The economic-financial controversy is on the way of being resolved and there are even the possibilities of initiating our cooperation under new patterns and in well-chosen sectors.

On the other hand, however and unfortunately, I must say that relations between the two parties are not taking place for obvious reasons. It is my hope that there is going to be understanding of the situation on the Guinean side, and we will be able to discuss the problem between us.

On the Path of African Unity

O JORNAL: Taking into consideration the common origins of the two parties (PAIGC and PAICV), do you, Mr President, believe that the split of November 1980 was a historic loss?

Aristides Pereira: Obviously it was a loss. It was not by accident that Amilcar Cabral conceived the party to advance along the path of unity between the two countries. However, we avoid stirring up problems that are already in the past. What we should do is face the realities existing now in the two countries. We must face the existence of the two parties and all the possibilities of joint work, finding the best way to advance on the path of African unity.

"We are acting in an experimental way"

O JORNAL: Cape Verde leaders are viewed on a world level as pragmatic leaders. Do you, Mr President, advocate the "philosophy" of pragmatism as a philosophy of political action?

Aristides Pereira: When we in Cape Verde speak of being pragmatic, it is precisely on the basis of the reality we have and which leads us not to limit ourselves to copying or aping political plans or systems. We take our own specific conditions into consideration. On that basis we are obliged to act in an experimental way, taking lessons, obviously, from all the intelligent experiences in countries with conditions closest to ours. Even so, our specific conditions require specific methods. It is on that basis that we are thinking of carrying out our work. And at every moment we are ready to review, correct and advance. Therefore, with practice, we are going to be formulating our theory. And with that theory we will be practicing. We are working in that way and we think that because of the results obtained, we must persevere.

8908

CSO: 3442/283

CAPE VERDE

ARISTIDES PEREIRA DESCRIBED AS HUMANIST

Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese 19 Apr 85 p 20

[Article by Antonio Duarte: "Aristides Pereira: Profile of a Humanist"]

[Text] The young of Cape Verde refer to their president with a word of affection: "Uncle." Comrades and friends of the Cape Verde leader emphasize his human nature, openness of spirit, Africanness of blood and diplomacy of actions.

He is 61 years of age and the dean of the presidents of the Group of Five: He is Aristides Maria Pereira. A native of the Island of Boa Vista, he is the youngest of 14 children born to a poor family. Married to Carolina Fortes Pereira, the Cape Verde president has three children and is a practicing Catholic. He devotes a good part of his time to his family and despite his introverted temperament, he likes to meet with persons close to him for whom he plays the violin and guitar (they say he plays with mastery).

Aristides Pereira, who has a summer house on the beach on the outskirts of the Cape Verde capital, spends the rest of his free time swimming and playing tennis. The interview with the Cape Verde president published today by O JORNAL, took place at the Peoples Palace in Sao Vicente, island on which Aristides Pereira spent Easter with relatives.

It was in Sao Vicente that Aristides Pereira went to highschool and he has happy memories of his youth on this island.

When he finished his studies at the Mindelo High School he wanted to study medicine but family poverty and the need to contribute to the support of his 13 other brothers and sisters forced him to go to work. While very young he emigrated to Guinea Bissau and in the Guinean capital he became a radio-telegraph technician.

It was in Guinea Bissau that Aristides Pereira came into contact with the colonial reality and he began clandestine political activity at that time. In 1956 he was appointed chief of the Mail and Telegraph Office of Bissau, at the same time that together with Amilcar Cabral and Luis Cabral he founded the African Party for the Independence of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC). The PAIGC was also born in the state house which served as a residence for Aristides Pereira at 16-A Dr Viera Machado Street in Bissau.

Responsible for the recruiting and sending of young men to training in guerrilla warfare, Aristides Pereira worked under the pseudonym of Alfredo Banjura. His position in the mail office allowed him to detect orders frequently sent from Lisbon to the colonial administration, thus preventing the arrest of some nationalists.

In May 1960, for security reasons, he fled to the Republic of Guinea (Conakry) where in 1964 he was elected assistant secretary general of the PAIGC.

In 1965 he was elected member of the War Council and in 1970 member of the Permanent Committee of the Executive Struggle Committee, responsible for security and surveillance, intelligence and foreign affairs.

On 20 January 1973, Aristides Pereira was accompanying Amilcar Cabral when the latter was assassinated, but he managed to flee.

In July of that same year he was elected secretary general of the PAIGC, and on 5 July 1975, with the proclamation of the independence of Cape Verde, he became the first president of a republic among those of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries.

Aristides Pereira is now completing his second term as president of Cape Verde and it is beginning to be confirmed in Cape Verde political circles that he could even resign his post this year, following the example given in recent years by two other chiefs of African states: Leopold Senghor of Senegal, and Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon .

The Cape Verde president does not confirm his possible resignation but said that if at any time he resigns from the Presidency of the Republic (for reasons of health) he will in fact notify the people of Cape Verde first.

Aristides Pereira personifies the picture of calm, dignity and prestige that Cape Verde enjoys in the world. It is the only African country where the death penalty for all crimes was abolished. It is one of the few African countries without political prisoners.

8908

CSO: 3462/283

COMOROS

OPPOSITION FORMS NEW ALLIANCES

Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 5

[Text] The newly-formed Union Nationale pour la Démocratie aux Comores (UNDC) is the only opposition group to have responded to the appeal which the Front Démocratique (FD) issued in Paris on April 18 for a broad coalition of all political parties opposed to the regime of Ahmed ABDALLAH. The FD called for support for a six-point platform of political demands, viz., the departure of the mercenaries, the resignation of president ABDALLAH, the release of all political prisoners, the organisation of free elections, the formation of a national unity government comprising all political groups in the country except those linked to the mercenaries (i.e. the ruling Union Comorienne pour le Progrès), and the establishment of democratic institutions. The UNDC, which is headed by Amois ASSOUMANI and is close to Mohamed TAKI, the president of the federal assembly who has fallen out with Moroni, subscribed to these demands on April 21, with the exception of the proposal for a national unity government. The UNDC and the FD were to address an open letter to president ABDALLAH this week.

I.O.N.- The Comorian opposition has undergone a number of changes since the mutiny in Moroni of members of the presidential guard on March 8 and the smashing of the FD structure in the Comoros after the front was accused of involvement in the revolt. According to the FD, between 400 and 600 people have been arrested, most of them members or sympathisers of the front. The alliance formed this week between the FD and the UNDC is noteworthy in that it is the first sign of solidarity with the front since the repressive measures against it. On the other hand, Abdallah MOUZAIR's URDC has kept absolute silence on the events in the Comoros in spite of the joint actions it undertook with the FD during the whole of 1984, and this is intriguing a large number of Comorians. They see in it a sign of potential reconciliation between the party of former president Ali SOILIH's one time foreign minister and the ABDALLAH government, or at least of an URDC desire to distance itself from the leftist parties. Mr MOUZAIR is thought unlikely to express support for the FD during his current visit to Saint Denis de la Réunion. The URDC has been hit in recent months by the departure of some of its members, including Mr ASSOUMANI, former president of Mr MOUZAIR's party. Other URDC members defected to the ABDALLAH regime, and three of Mr MOUZAIR's former aides are now in the Moroni government. As for the other opposition groups based in Paris, namely the Mouvement de Libération des Comores, FNUK-UNIKOM and the Organisation des Jeunesses Comoriennes, none of them has responded to the FD's invitation to join the common political platform.

COMOROS

BRIEFS

FRANCE ACCUSED--Moustafa Said Cheikh, first secretary of the opposition Front Democratique in the Comoros, who was arrested the day after the March 8 presidential guard mutiny, is said to be in serious condition as a result of the subsequent tortures inflicted upon him by the mercenaries in the guard. He is reported to have been recently transferred from the guard camp at Kandani to the regular army camp at Mde. In a press conference in Paris on April 18 the Front Democratique accused France of involvement in the repression of its members in the Comoros. It said that French Transall military transports took prisoners from one island to another, and mercenary leader Bob Denard had been seen in company with officers from the French patrol ship Epee which was moored in Moroni between April 10 and 12. [Victoria NATION French Creole 3 May 85 p 3]

SERGEANT EVADES CAPTURE--A former member of the presidential guard who escaped from prison last February is still giving the Moroni authorities headaches. On April 15 at Chin'dini Sergeant Anouar, nicknamed 'Rambo', sailed from Grand Comoro for Anjouan aboard a boat stolen from a local fisherman, together with five associates. Units of the army, the gendarmerie and the presidential guard were waiting for him but failed to catch him. [Victoria NATION French Creole 3 May 85 p 3]

MAYOTTE KEEPS POLL SYSTEM--Arrangements for the next French parliamentary elections in 1986 will remain unchanged on Mayotte, despite government plans to introduce a system of proportional representation elsewhere. Under a draft law relating to the election of deputies in overseas territories, approved by the French cabinet on April 19, the island will keep the present system with one seat in parliament held by the candidate winning majority support in two rounds of voting. Mayotte's sole deputy is currently Jean-Francois Hory, a member of the Mouvement des Radicaux de Gauche which supports the present government, and one of the main sponsors of the local MPM party which wants to see Mayotte given the status of a full French departement. He was recently attacked by Mansour Kamardine, secretary of the local federation of the right-wing RPR (which also supports departement status), who accused him of trying to ban a special RPR congress at Quangani on April 7. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 4]

CSO: 3400/278

GABON

BRIEFS

NEW OIL DEPOSIT--Paris, 22 May (AFP)--ELF Gabon, an affiliate of the ELF Aquitaine Group, has discovered a new oil deposit off the Gabonese coast about 17 kilometers west of Port-Gentil, the company disclosed in Paris on Wednesday. During production tests, a flow of 600 cubic meters of oil per day was obtained. Extra appraisal work will be necessary to establish the commercial value of this discovery, since the deposit is situated at an average depth of 150 meters, ELF Gabon further said. [Excerpts] [Paris AFP in French 1036 GMT 22 May 85 AB]

CSO: 3400/275

14 June 1985

GHANA

FUTURE DEMOCRATIC ORDER DISCUSSED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 10 May 85 pp 3, 5

[Article by Kojo Yankah]

[Text]

FOR obvious reasons, the past three years have been devoted mainly to discuss on the national economic recovery which would certainly provide the foundation for the establishment of real social justice.

As was stated on May Day by the Special Adviser to the PNDC, "social justice cannot be built upon a shattered economy".

Yet, hints have already been dropped on the kind of future political order which would justify one of the main objectives of the 31st December Revolution — the involvement of the people in the practice of decision-making.

Emotionalism

If we strip all discussion of this subject of emotionalism and sentimentalism, we would, I believe, be arriving at a system that would not only ensure stability but would also give real freedom to the individual.

The leader of the Revolution, Brother Jerry John Rawlings, has on several occasions, exposed the fallacy of democracy lying in the ballot box. The National Commission for Democracy (NDC) has also

been charged with finding a framework that would guarantee every citizen, the right to participation in decision-making.

And on the last May Day, Capt. Kojo Tsikata made the candid point that the NDC was not instituted in order to preside over a return to old system which have failed us.

In this essay, an attempt will be made to examine the old systems vis a vis the claims to democracy and also to suggest a framelook that may be considered by those interested in seeing all Ghanaians ruling themselves, that is to say ensuring A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE in its truest sense.

Propaganda has succeeded to a great extent in making us believe that because of population expansion, all the people cannot participate in decision-making. So the monarchies gave way to parliaments.

And, again, as a result of the propaganda, HUMAN BEINGS gave up their God-given rights and handed them over to parliamentarians. We gave up our FREEDOM TO BE.

C.P.P.

It is difficult to imagine what would have happened to the CPP if Dr Nkrumah's government had not been overthrown in 1966. By 1966, the party Central Committee was alienated from the rank and file of

the party, not to talk of the mass of the people. Any articulate Ghanaian opposition member was a declared enemy.

Opportunism, graft, greed and a corruption of the essence of true socialism were the order of the day. The various commissions of enquiry after Nkrumah's overthrow provide

clear evidences.

Military regimes have ended up not only making some senior army officials rich, but have put fear in the people, making mockery of true democracy. Acheampong's version is a different story.

Parliaments under Busia and Limann regimes were more of a disaster. I am yet to meet a parliamentarian who ever went back to his constituency to seek their opinion over a major issue. One parliament, spent 17 hours to discuss the banning of the TUC.

Another spent 14 hours proscribing the use of Nkrumah's name on platforms, among others. In another parliament, three months or so were spent on determining rights and privileges of parliamentarians — at a time when the economy was fast heading towards decline.

That parties divide a take decisions for the majority has been the practice of the past. If the question

of Preventive Detention Act had been thrown to the people to decide, I am sure the result would have been different.

Equally, if the people had been asked to determine whether or not Nkrumah's name and effigies should be erased, the decision could have been different.

To say that parties and parliamentary democracies have failed in Ghana and most parts of Africa does not validate in any way the democracies in other countries.

Condorcet

The quotation by Capt. Tsikata from a French Democrat Condorcet carries a lot of weight: "If you elected me, it was not to defend your ideas, but because you approved of mine".

If Ronald Reagan had belonged to another side of Europe he would be called a dictator or authoritarian. Against the wishes of congress and large numbers of American people he has decided that the popular revolution of Nicaragua should be brought down its knees.

Against similar popular opinion of Jews, Congress and war veterans, Ronald Reagan has gone on to visit the cemetery of Nazi victims.

Again, Western DEMOCRACIES have defied popular opinion not to allow installation of deadly SS

and MX missiles on their soils.

In a country like Jordan, which is supported by the West for its democracy, Parliament never met for 10 years. Only last year, the King ORDERED parliament to meet.

In certain parts of Africa, the struggle over WHO SHOULD RULE WHO has brought violence, instability, poverty and abuse of freedom for the society. The people have been poorer in the end. (consider Chad and Zimbabwei).

Constitutions have not prouided the answers either. How many hours, how much money have not been spent drawing up constitutions for Ghana? In all cases, those who supervise the promulgation of the constitutions ensure that they are guaranteed IMMUNITIES — probably for the crimes that they have committed.

Constitutions are nothing but instruments which governments use to exercise dictatorship and usurp the power of the people. If sovereignty resides in the people, and if sovereignty cannot be delegated, why should this sovereignty be usurged by one person, a party or a parliament?

Constitutions offer abstract rights which provide a smokescreen for the crimes committed by the few in the society.

As one political thinker said elsewhere: "it is invalid and undemocratic of a committee or a parliament to be entitled to draft the law for the society ... Any

pretention by any individual party or group that is responsible for law is dictatorship. Democracy means the responsibility of the whole society and supervision should be carried out by the whole society."

Policeman

Of course, it should not take a policeman several kilometres away to come and challenge a trader selling above control price fixed by the people.

Recently I was reading from the Philosopher and thinker Erich Fromm. He said: "Ideologies and concepts have lost a lot of their attractions and capitalism and communism have no meaning any more. People are looking for a new direction, a new philosophy devoted to material and spiritual life first and not to death."

The famous Franz Fanon brought it nearer home: "If we want to bring humanity to a level which is different from that of Europe, we must invent, we must discover."

"If we want to respond to the expectations of our people, we must look beyond Europe ... For Europe, for ourselves and for humanity ... We must turn over a new leaf and attempt to create a new man."

Ghanaians have got to a stage where we should be able to ask ourselves individually and seriously whether we are FREE. Freedom to choose somebody to talk for us in par-

liament is a negation of the right to be free.

When shall we ever be free to congregate in our communities to decide whether or not Ghana should go to the Olympic Games?

Should it not be possible to gather in our communities or areas to determine what should be imported and what not to? Can't we have a framework in which all the views of the various communities can be called and the majority opinion carried?

We may always be reminded by Jean-Jacques Rousseau when he said: "Man was born free and everywhere he is in chains

"Legislative power belongs to the people and can belong ONLY TO them ...

"People's Deputies or parliamentarians are not and cannot be their representatives; they are only commissioners, they cannot conclude anything definitely.

Why then have our representatives usurped the power and become lords over the people?

"Democracy means the people's power and not the power of the substitute ..."

If Ghana's revolution should be permanent, if it should transform the political social and economic structures of the society, then we have to think hard. We may even have to go back to revolutionise our systems of decision-making before the white man came.

In 1972, a group of Soviet Scientists undertook a

research into the class structures in developing countries. They concluded:

"Specific conditions and features characterize the development of the revolutionary operations in each country. Countries differ in their social and class structure their social and political forces, the weight, the activity and the influence of their different classes and categories as well as in the degree of their political organization. The realistic picture of a country may therefore be DIFFERENT ..."

Our past political history, our cultural values, our religion and our social and class structures should be a necessary guide to our search for genuine democracy — democracy in the real sense and not in rhetoric.

Democracy that would ensure that farmers, workers, professionals, Christians, Moslems, atheists as well as all individuals would be provided the opportunity not only to participate in the PRACTICE (not the theory) of decision-making but more essentially to EXERCISE power.

Already, some villages and district councils have taken up the mantle.

Let the grassroots begin the process and we shall be on our way to people's real participation in decision-making — a step further towards genuine democracy.

GHANA

CURRENT ISSUE EXCHANGE INITIATED WITH LIBYA, BENIN, BURKINA FASO

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 29 Apr 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Tetteh Quaynor]

[Text]

FOUR African countries have unanimously agreed to exchange information and harmonise their positions on current burning issues facing them while reinforcing economic co-operation among them.

The four countries are Ghana, Burkina Faso, Benin and the People's Arab Libyan Socialist Jamahiriya.

The Heads of State of the four countries, Flt.-Lt. J. J. Rawlings of Ghana, Captain Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso, President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin and Colonel Muamar Gaddafi of Libya, who was represented by Major Abdessalom Jaloud, Libyan Chief of Staff, reached this agreement when they met in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso, at the week-end to discuss economic co-operation and strengthen understanding among their countries and peoples.

The four leaders examined problems posed by the international economic crisis with particular attention to the harmful effects of drought in Burkina Faso.

In a communique issued after the meeting, the Heads of State and Revolutionary Governments reviewed in broad terms certain world problems.

Regarding the problems of the African continent, the heads denounced the odious system of apartheid and condemned the imperialist powers which co-operate with and support this ignominious regime.

Reaffirming their revolutionary solidarity with the Freedom Fighters of Namibia whose sole representative is the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), the four countries also supported the Organisation of African Unity's (OAU) decisions concerning the just and definitive solution of the conflict of the Western Sahara.

They moreover declared their total support for the conclusions of the ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement held in New Delhi from April 19 to 21 1985

concerning the condemnation of the creation of a so-called Provisional Transitional Government in Namibia and reaffirmed their support for the OAU decision to call for a Security Council meeting on the issue.

The four leaders and their governments also supported OAU resolutions on Chad and invited all the factions in Chad to co-operate in the implementation of these resolutions.

Examining the situation created in the Middle East by the expansionist and aggressive Zionist State and its imperialist allies, the four states deplored the consequences which the situation has had on peace in that region.

They reaffirmed their conviction that only the unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from the region it occupies and the recognition of the inalienable and legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people will ensure a stable peace in that part of the world.

These international problems, the meeting considered, are created by imperialism and they therefore declared their determination to do everything to resolutely fight against imperialism in all its forms.

CSO: 3400/244

GHANA

BRITAIN PRAISED FOR CANCELLING DEBT

AB190856 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 May 85

[Kumi Asakoe commentary]

[Text] Press reports that the British Government has written off a 60-million-pounds-sterling debt owed her by Ghana is a most welcome and positive development. This act is a clear, unambiguous demonstration of British goodwill and concern toward Ghana's efforts at socioeconomic development. It is most appropriate that Britain, of all countries, has taken the lead in offering this current practical gesture of support for ongoing efforts directed at a resolution of Ghana's fiscal and other economic problems.

When the story of Ghana's economic recovery is told one day, this singular act of goodwill would get due emphasis.

While welcoming the news, it is hoped that the act would not be an isolated occurrence and that other nations whom Ghana owes would in similar fashion write off substantial portions of the debt. Such acts, creating prevalent ties of common interest might go a long way to promote international trust, cooperation, and friendliness. They should not be seen as mere acts of charity. They are practical contributions toward the ongoing economic recovery program, which, if successful, would create the basis for a strong and buoyant economy in Ghana. It is also hoped that such kind and practical gestures of goodwill would be extended to cover other issues like the unfavorable terms of trade that many Third World countries are confronted with. Commodity prices and agreements could be given favorable review. Furthermore, one hopes that even more generous offers of aid and technical assistance would be forthcoming.

CSO: 3400/244

GHANA

ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM GAINS DISCUSSED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 1 May 85 p 3

[Article by K. Abaka Quansah]

[Text]

MEMORIES are always short, thus the obvious has to be restated that at the time of the December 31 take-over, the national economy was at the brink of a total collapse.

It was against this screen of absolute socio-economic decadence that the PNDC launched the economic recovery programme to lift Ghana out of the doldrums.

We are half-way through the recovery period (1984-86), and it is appropriate to take stock of what the programme has achieved, whilst at the same time re-doubling our efforts at national reconstruction and development.

The Secretary of Finance and Economic Planning, Dr Kwesi Botchwey, sent rays of hope to Ghanaians last week when he delivered the 1985 budget statement.

Increase

The Secretary said, inter alia, that the economy had not only turned round after years of decline, but it also showed a 7.6 per cent increase in gross domestic product in 1984.

Simply put, the total value of all the goods and services we produced, after adjustments in the value of money, increased by 7.6 per cent over what we produced in 1983.

In spite of the fact that 1983 was a particularly bad year, a 7.6 per cent increase in what we produced that year is significant and a record growth in our

economic history.

Between 1960 and 1970, the average rate of growth in GDP was 2.2 per cent per annum, whilst from 1970-1982, there was an average decline in gross domestic product of 0.5 per cent per annum.

Thus, the 7.6 per cent growth in 1984 marks a break-through, a pointer to the fact that the economic recovery programme provides the answers to most of the economic problems of the immediate past.

The improvement in food production, which is itself, a function of the economic recovery programme, coupled with scotching large scale monetization of the economy through deficit financing reduced the rate of inflation from 123 per cent in 1983 to 40 per cent in 1984.

This rate is just about equal to the average rate of inflation for the decade 1970-80, which stood at 39.5 per cent. Agricultural production which had been declining at 0.2 per cent per annum from 1970-1982 improved significantly by 10 per cent increase in 1984.

Significant achievements were recorded in industrial production and services to industrial production increased by 7 per cent in 1984 as against an average rate of decline of 2.4 per cent per annum between 1970 and 1982. Services chalked a 4 per cent growth in 1984 compared with an average rate of decline of 7.5 per cent from 1970 to 1982.

The exports sector which had showed a

yearly negative growth rate of 4.7 per cent between 1970 and 1982, and had virtually hit the rocks on the eve of the launching of the recovery programme, showed signs of a gradual return to normalcy in 1984. Whilst cocoa production and gold exports increased modestly by 3 per cent in 1984, timber exports expanded by 24 per cent.

The achievements in 1984 were modest, but considering the momentum generated in the export sector as well as the commitment of the PNDC to removing bottlenecks hindering resuscitating the exports sector of the economy, it is expected that the precarious achievements of 1984, will have matured by the end of this financial year.

The success of the Economic Recovery Programme depends directly on the rehabilitation of the exports base of the economy. More needs to be done here since in the final analysis economic reconstruction depends on our foreign exchange earning ability.

Dedication

The modest achievements of the past year indicate that with dedication we can rebuild Ghana, and make the country what the founding fathers envisioned.

The answer lies in hard work for as Lenin put it "the productivity of labour is, in the final analysis, the most important, the main tool for the victory of the new order".

GHANA

TSAKATA URGES TUC LEADERSHIP TO ASSIST IN ECONOMIC REVIVAL

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 2 May 85 p 4

[Speech by PNDC Special Advisor, Captain Kojo Tsikata at the May Day parade for workers at Independence Square in Accra]

[Text] Comrades and friends, May Day is an occasion for the renewal of solidarity among the working people of the world, a day of remembrance of all those who have contributed to the struggle for the legitimate rights of workers, especially those who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of the Trade Union movement. A day when workers dedicate themselves to show by their work, their commitment to the struggle to improve the living conditions of society.

All of us who work to produce something of value to our society, whether it is a material object such as a piece of cloth, a tin of fish, food, a bag of cocoa, or a cake of soap or whether it is a service such as transport are workers.

But in the context of May Day celebrations we are more particularly concerned with workers as organized labour, and especially urban organized labour. And it is the Trade Unions which have over the years, built up the organized front of working people. The Trade Union Movement has a great deal to its credit not just in Ghana, but throughout the world, and has been responsible for major advances in fair conditions of work as well as greater worker participation in industry and business. The Trade Union Movement in Ghana has a glorious past and has played a militant role in the anti-colonial struggle and the struggle to build a just society.

But we all know that it also bears a share of blame when we examine events over the short period of our existence as an independent state.

We are all aware of periods when the TUC leadership neglected the real needs and problems of workers whilst allowing themselves to be manipulated by politicians and lining their pockets with the very funds contributed by the poor man on the job.

At this time when the nation is engaged in a revolutionary process, a new quality of TUC leadership is expected—one which will erase the memories of past shortcomings by a few commitment to service and social justice and one which does not regard the unions as mere stepping stones to influence and personal gain.

It is regrettable that even now some union leaders are engaged in the negative activities which should be consigned to the past. Even now, some of your leaders are allowing themselves to be used as instruments to betray your real interests.

During the Second Republic, some TUC leaders allowed themselves to be manipulated by political parties. We can all recall the situation under the Busia regime when some leaders were instigated into activities which were later used as a pretext to justify the ban on the TUC by the Progress Party (PP) Government. Some of the people who were Ministers in the Government which banned the TUC are even now holding secret meetings with some members of your present leadership and are urging them on to confrontation with the government on issues which the government is ready to discuss openly and frankly.

BETRAYAL

There are also some intellectual demagogues who climbed on the TUC bandwagon in the Second Republic, but quickly deserted it when the TUC was proscribed and who are once more trying to mislead the trade unions to their own advantage.

If there has ever been a time when this betrayal of the aspirations of the rank and file of ordinary working men and women should stop, it is now. And it must be clear to any sincere observer of the political scene today that the only alternative to the present revolutionary process is a reactionary regime which will pursue policies worse than proscriptions against the TUC.

Over the years, Ghana's resources have been exploited and plundered. Since independence, the exploitation

has been presided over by Ghanaians. Even when the pressures have come from external sources and an unjust world economic order, there have been Ghanaians willing, for a price, to serve these interests, whether in the fields of commerce, administration, politics or industry.

ECONOMY

As a result, by December 31, 1981, Ghana's economy had been reduced to shambles, her infrastructure was disintegrating and industry was virtually at a standstill. After December 31, 1981, our economy had to absorb the additional shocks of drought, bushfires, power cuts, the sudden return of over one million of our people from Nigeria, and the economic and political pressures of both internal and external elements who disapproved of the direction of the revolution.

The aim of our revolutionary process is social justice. But social justice cannot be built upon a shattered economy. Therefore the greatest immediate priority of the government is to tackle the economy and provide a firm and sustainable base on which the structures of social justice can rise.

Under the Economic Recovery Programme the World Bank has promised credit facilities to the tune of over 400 million dollars out of which we have received over 38 million dollars up to February this year, allocated to various projects such as Railways rehabilitation, assistance for urgent transport and agricultural needs, GHAIIP and the Refinery. We have also received from the IMF nearly 500 million dollars as balance of payments support. All these loans have been ploughed into areas directly related to production and therefore the justification for these loans must lie in higher production which is a responsibility not only for management but for workers as well.

PRAISE

Although we have been receiving a lot of praise about the Economic Recovery Programme from quarters we least expect such praise, we ourselves are modest and cautious whilst evaluating the progress of the programme. This caution is reflected in our current budget and we can modestly talk of some positive results on the economic front. Some industries are reviving, inflation is slowing and the economic growth rate has stopped falling and has stabilized. Even though life is still difficult and most people's resources are stretched near their limits, there are positive indications for the future. But this recovery cannot happen instantly and it will take some time; but we can make a modest claim to having halted the decline and stabilized the situation.

The present moment is the most crucial time. It is the time when every ounce of productive effort must be made to consolidate our gains so far, and to advance the recovery programme to the point where we can begin to pay off the necessary debts incurred in rehabilitating the economy and at the same time provide a greater measure of prosperity and comfort for all Ghanaians.

At this time, the contribution of the TUC leaders and membership is vital. Your support, your productivity, your work, will help to bring about the better Ghana which we all want to achieve, and which is now in sight.

Three years ago, even two years ago, that vision of a better Ghana was just that—a vision. We all endured hardships in the faith that the difficult measures we were taking, the discipline which we had imposed on ourselves would bring us a little nearer our goals. It would be a great shame if all that which we have passed through were to be thrown away; but now it is no longer just a vision but a reality which is within our grasp if only we all exert ourselves a little more. It is the duty of all of us to contribute that additional effort.

IGNORANCE

And it is empty pandering to the ignorance of the underprivileged for people who claim the leadership of organized labour to say, "Give us more pay, more benefits, better conditions, and then we will call for more effort." A farmer does not ask to eat his yam before he has dug the mound and a fisherman does not expect to eat fish before he launches his canoe. The cake cannot be shared until it has been baked.

Certainly the government is aware of the needs of workers. Within existing constraints, as many concessions as possible have been made. What is necessary to enable the government to ensure better conditions for workers is to remove the constraints. And the constraints are low productivity, waste, inefficiency and everything which holds back the Economic Recovery Programme. It is in your hands. You and your leaders have the means to remove those constraints, if only you have the will and determination. We on our part will honour our responsibilities and ensure that workers are not stretched beyond limits. In this respect the Government shares the concern of working people on the question of the taxation of 'overtime' allowances and has therefore directed the Secretaries for Finance and Labour to take immediate action to place the proposals of the TUC before the Tripartite Committee so that a report can be submitted to the PNDC for speedy resolution.

I also understand that some of the Collective Bargaining Agreements that are pending before the Prices and Incomes Board have now been approved and released and that the Prices and Incomes Board has been instructed to expedite action on the rest.

In our effort to remove the constraints on the economy it is important that every organization and structure which can help should work together, co-ordinated and in harmony, in pursuance of this aim. If any time and energy is wasted in unnecessary competition or divisiveness, then we shall all be the losers.

CO-OPERATION

In this respect, the unions and the CDRs in workplaces must work together and complement each other's efforts.

In the same way, the Joint Consultative Committees must translate workers' participation into practical terms. The JCC is not meant to be a forum for a contest between workers and management to show who wields most influence, but a forum for co-operation towards a common aim — increased efficiency and productivity. The TUC leadership should show the way towards a practical realization of the noble objectives of the JCCs, and this too requires effort.

There have been some calls from the TUC leadership for greater participation in the making of policy, and for representation on decision-making bodies.

All organizations available to workers' participation — the Unions, the CDRs, the various mass movements — are avenues for representation and participation. But on the national front, it must be recognized that the search for a genuine and practical form of popular representation and participation cannot be treated as an overnight affair. It is in this respect that we propose the CDRs as one of the organs of popular power because we believe that it is only through a policy of decentralization of the decision-making process that we can achieve real grass-roots democracy and block the way to the rule of a privileged elite and remove the heavy burden of centralization of the decision-making process as well as the administration of the state.

REFORMS

The National Commission for Democracy was not instituted in order to preside over a return to old systems which have failed us. It would be easy to make a few cosmetic reforms to old systems, but it would not cure their essential defects, which have clearly shown in the past that they cannot, in any real sense, provide a means of participation by the people.

It has been said often enough that various patterns of western democracy simply

do not work in our own social historical and economic context. This, of course, implies that they do work in the countries and contexts where they evolved.

But those who look up to these systems as models which we should emulate are, unfortunately, blind to the fact that they are not even working effectively on their own home ground!

More and more people in the so-called western democracies feel increasingly alienated and helpless to control events. Why, for example, should the leader of one of Britain's most moderate political parties write an article on "how to restore real power to the people," and say "the catalogue of recent government abuses of power seems endless. These are not isolated blunders. On the contrary, they are evidence of fundamental and serious flaws in our constitution . . . which is quite simply outdated, a relic of the nineteenth century and unsuited to our modern society." He goes on to say that "the constitution should not be for the rulers, but for the ruled." Even that last statement implies a class of people who should be ruled by others. And this system is one of those held up by some Ghanaians as an ideal!

The western processes of the ballot box, in reality, do not provide the means for real participation. A French democrat, Condorcet, wrote to his voters, "If you elected me, it was not to defend your ideas, but because you approved of mine." And, of course, once he was elected he was free to pursue his ideas, even if they should change or be altered by pressures or factors unknown until his term of office expired.

DEMOCRACY

We are trying to construct a practical alternative, one which will offer genuine avenues for participation, for real representation, for true and popular democracy. In this task, you must make use of every constructive avenue to express your ideas rather than demand impatiently that government should hand down some ready-made remedy

which will only lead us into yet another situation of estrangement between an elite group of decision makers and a passive and helpless mass of "the ruled."

Before I conclude, I would like to mention the traditionally non-aligned stance of the African Trades Union Movement. If you really stand by the principle of non-alignment, then I would wish you to reflect on the circumstances surrounding the recent OATUU meeting in Lagos and other such meetings. We can not close our eyes to the influence of outside powers and the efforts made to manipulate African unions. We know that there are Ghanaians here who are working as agents of those powers who want to use the African unions for their own purposes. Some of their activities were exposed at the recent Lagos conference. If we cannot resist this, then what right have we to pretend to speak for the workers of this dear continent of ours?

I call on you all to respond to the challenge of May Day. It is the hands, the minds, the creativity, the commitment and the determination of the Ghanaian worker which can carry this country into a new era of true social justice. Thank you.

CSO: 3400/242

GHANA

ANNAN ENCOURAGES FOREIGN INVESTMENT FROM GULF STATES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 1 May 85 p 1

[Text]

MR Justice D. F. Annan, member of the PNDC, said in Kuwait yesterday that the PNDC wishes to encourage foreign investors and is confident that the Gulf States will take advantage of opportunities available.

The PNDC member said Ghana plans to set up an agency to streamline meas-

ures governing foreign investment.

Mr Justice Annan, who arrived in Kuwait last Saturday on a four-day official visit, said he talked to Kuwaiti officials about prospects for joint co-operation in oil exploration.

"We are planning to make use of Kuwait's vast experience in this respect in a bid

to utilise our natural resources in the best possible manner," he told a press conference.

Mr Justice Annan said Ghana also offered attractive opportunities for investment in agriculture, banking, tourism and mineral development, especially diamonds.

Mr Justice Annan has held talks with the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, as well as the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Finance and Economy Minister, and Oil and Industry Minister.

CSO: 3400/242

GHANA

REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS CRITICIZE UNIONS AS UNDEMOCRATIC

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 1 May 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Kwame Nkrumah Revolutionary Guards (KNRG) has called on the labour movement to examine its proper role in the society as far as the worker-management role is concerned.

It said the KNRG believed that participatory democracy industry could not function properly with hand-picked bureaucratic leadership for the labour movement.

This was contained in a solidarity message issued by the KNRG in connection with 'May Day' which is celebrated throughout the world today.

It declared that it was its view that workers must now play the decisive role in the decision-making process in the labour movement as op-

posed to the present situation where important national decisions were taken by few selected ones in the leadership of the movement.

The KNRG therefore called on the movement to demonstrate true leadership and guide the workers to achieve its historic mission.

It took the opportunity to congratulate the four African states of Burkina Faso, Benin, Libya and Ghana on their co-operation and their decision to continue the anti-imperialist struggle.

It declared that the co-operation should be the nucleus formation towards the realization of the cherished goal of a continental government for Africa as envisioned by Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah.

CSO: 3400/243

GHANA

COOPERATION BETWEEN UNIONS, CDRS URGED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 30 Apr 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Office of the Political Counsellor for the Economic Development of the CDRs has expressed its unflinching solidarity with the working people of the country.

In a statement issued in Accra yesterday in connection with this year's May Day, the Political Counsellor impressed upon workers the crucial need for co-operation and the fostering of cordial relationship between the CDRs and local unions at the various workplaces.

The statement emphasised that at this juncture of the national history of the country when genuine and concerted efforts are being made by the revolution to establish true industrial democracy, "the dissipation of our energies through futile strife among ourselves is counter-productive and consequently against the spirit of the on-going process and our nation."

It, therefore, called upon the Trades Union Congress (TUC) to extend its umbrella to all workers in the factories and construction sectors "who have so far not

been able to enjoy the constructive benefits of unionisation."

The statement further called upon the TUC to initiate serious process of democratisation into the practice of collective bargaining.

The call, the Political Counsellor explained, is being made in the belief that "the more working people are allowed to participate in and discuss available alternatives, the more they will be committed to the agreement so signed through their own involvement and in the process demystify the process of collective bargaining."

The Political Counsellor also called upon workers to soberly reflect on the struggle to attain economic emancipation and ask themselves if they have been faithful to the country in their work output.

"Let us remember that it is not just enough to deplore the exploitative character of the relationship between transnational capital and our country. Neither is it enough to criticise the role of multinational corporations and the policies of the IMF and the World Bank. Our problems shall not disappear merely by condemning their existence," the statement said.

He made it plain that Ghanaians constitute the reference points of whatever development or progress they made and as such it behoves on all workers to join hands with the PNDC to create the basis for sustained economic growth by making judicious use of the country's limited resources.

He reminded the workers that without production, wealth could not be generated and that the question of how to share or utilize it would become merely academic and illusory.

The statement drew attention to the international dimensions and significance of the struggles of the working people and stressed the CDRs solidarity with all such people especially the people of South Africa and Namibia who are fighting to liberate themselves from the inhuman apartheid regime in Pretoria.

CSO: 3400/243

GHANA

PRIVATE CORPORATION TO REPLACE COTTON PARASTATAL

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 10 May 85 p 1

[Article by Faustina Ashirifie]

[Text]

THE Ghana Cotton Company has been inaugurated to replace the Cotton Development Board with the aim of avoiding inefficiencies and inadequacies of the Board and thereby create the necessary conditions for growth.

The company made up of eight spinning mills and an oil mill shall operate on sound commercial lines as a limited liability company and would be left to manage its own affairs.

The shareholders are Akosombo Textiles, Freedom Textiles, Tema Textiles Ltd., Akotex Textiles, Ghana Textiles Manufacturing Company (GTMC), West Coast Spinning, Spintex, Juapong Textiles and Crystal Oil Mills which will process the cotton seed into edible oil.

The Ghana Government

will hold 30 per cent equity shares while the 70 per cent goes to the nine companies.

Inaugurating the company in Accra yesterday, Dr Francis Acquah, Secretary for Industries, Science and Technology said the new company would be under the joint supervision of his ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture.

With the company coming into being, textile mills, right from the beginning will be involved in the development of cotton to ensure uninterrupted supply of cotton lint to feed mills.

He tasked the company to take adequate measures to improve upon facilities and conditions for the growing of cotton to enable it to cater for the basic raw material needs of industries dependent on it for operations.

Dr Acquah who recounted the numerous

problems that bedevilled the Cotton Development Board, charged the shareholders to strive to make its operations more viable and profitable to enable them to contribute to raising the quality of life of the people of this country.

He also charged them to ensure that the necessary inputs such as fertiliser, pesticides, herbicides and extension services are provided to farmers in time to enable them to increase production.

Dr Acquah further called on the company to reactivate the present almost non-operational research and quality control laboratory to carry out research which will lead to disease-free cotton and high productivity.

It is only when the company is able to face the challenges confronting it and is able to arrest the decline in cotton production that it would be contributing to the achievement of the goals of the Economic Recovery Programme (ERP).

CSO: 3400/243

GHANA

MRS. RAWLINGS CALLS FOR DISCLOSURE OF CORRUPTION

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 May 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Zenobia Ofori-Dankwa]

[Text]

MRS Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings, president of the December 31 Women's Movement, has thrown a challenge to Ghanaians, inviting anyone who has evidence of corruption against anybody in the Revolutionary process to come forward, so that the necessary sanctions can be taken against the person.

She emphasised that one principle which cannot be compromised on is the question of people entrusted with any degree of responsibility abusing and misusing such positions for personal advantage.

Mrs Rawlings stressed that the only way the principles of the December 31 Revolution can be achieved is for the Ghanaian to stand up for the truth and be ready to be damned for it.

Speaking at a press conference in connection with the third anniversary of the movement in Accra yesterday, Mrs Rawlings said the Revolution is craving for dedicated Ghanaians with a strong sense of integrity, competence and commitment and with the courage to confront one another.

She questioned whether any processes are being fashioned for evaluating all those in positions of responsibility vis-a-vis the principles of the Revolution.

"There is no doubt that our battle will be a long and strenuous one, especially, as the colonial and neo-colonial mentality is something that has affected all of us in different degrees", she stressed.

She stated too that we are still influenced to a large extent by these attitudes since our society is still organised and dominated by colonial relationships in trade, education and even in health.

Mrs Rawlings said there are many other areas and examples in our day-to-day life that also show deep influences on our minds too, resulting from centuries of the colonial experience which we have to fight to rid ourselves of.

Touching on the system of government administration, the Movement president described it as so cumbersome that it is

amazing that a Revolutionary Government continues to work in this strangling system.

She lamented that there seems to be a continuing inability to cut through bureaucratic mazes of red-tapeism, delays and lack of urgency in the implementation of decisions, adding, "if anything, the bureaucratic stranglehold is growing again."

Mrs Rawlings said we cannot afford to lose sight of the ideals of the young soldiers who set this process in motion, of the December 31 Women's Movement and all other concerned Ghanaians, "neither can we afford to compromise on those ideals."

She questioned the practice of some Secretaries of State who have become remote from the people and have closed themselves up in their offices and intimate circles. She questioned further whether Secretaries of State are spending time in the villages as was announced in 1983.

Yet, a third query was whether the Secretaries who decided to adopt a rural development project each in the regions have paid more than a cursory visit to the sites.

"We heard of post-budget visits by Secretaries to workplaces. How long did these go on and to what extent were they more than ceremonial visits?" Mrs Rawlings asked.

She pleaded that everyone involved in the Revolutionary process must keep examining himself in order to retain the probity of the young Revolution.

She called for a recollection of the announcement of the December 31 Revolution on the radio in 1981 and asked, how many Ghanaians sincerely felt clean and un-corrupted to hail and welcome the announcement. She said it was most unlike the 1979 June 4 dawning.

"So many of us who saw a Revolution only in terms of an anti-corruption affair felt uneasy about December 1981 because the corruptors had succeeded in corrupting the working base in order to undermine

the prospects of a future Revolution", the president recalled.

Even then, she emphasised, the corrupting of the base does not justify our having to abandon a noble cause even though, we acknowledge that our Revolutionary task is made more difficult by the corruption factors.

Mrs Rawlings said the nation may have some competent but corrupt people just as there are some dedicated people of integrity who are quite ineffectual but regretted that it is indeed not easy to find those with the three virtues together.

Commenting on the coincidence of the celebration of the third anniversary of the Movement with the end of the United Nations Decade for Women, Mrs Rawlings said; "We are happy to note that the Revolution has earned itself a worthwhile record for its involvement of women at virtually all levels of decision-making in our national life in addition to its earnest efforts to see that all legislation that discriminates against women in whatever form are expunged from our law books."

"The December 31 Revolution is close to the hearts of our countrymen and women as an attempt to eliminate the social evils that check the advancement of our society and hold back our people's just desires and aspirations to create for ourselves, a society which harmonises with our historical past and is not in conflict with our cultural predilections," she concluded.

The December 31 Women's Movement was launched on the morning of May 15, 1982, five months after the rebirth of the December 31, 1981 Revolutionary process was set in motion.

GHANA

BARTER TRADE WITH SENEGAL TO COMMENCE

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 1 May 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by Faustina Ashirifie]

[Text]

PLANS are far advanced for the establishment of a barter-trade agreement between Ghana and Senegal for the exchange of parent stock of fowls for cows.

Already four hatcheries which can meet the target on request of the government have sent their proposals to the Ministry of Agriculture for further action.

This was disclosed to pressmen by Mr John O. Nunoo, Managing Director of ACME Hatchery Limited at Ofankor, near Accra when the agricultural assessment team from the Egyptian Internatio-

nal Centre for Agriculture (EICA) visited his farm on Monday.

The hatcheries each of which will be expected to provide 3,000 parent birds every month are Glamour Farms, Pomadze Farms, Darko Farms and ACME Hatchery Ltd.

Asked whether he will be able to meet the requirement, Mr Nunoo further hinted that he presently has 15,000 parent stock and about 1,400 grand-parent stock from which 40,000 parents can be obtained within ten laying periods.

The Managing Director who conducted newsmen around said with the installation of a new equipment which are expected to arrive soon, the hatchery by September, can produce 80,000 to 100,000 broiler chicks every month

as against 40,000 chicks per month last year.

At the moment, ACME Hatchery has started dressing birds which are sold at reasonable prices to meet the pockets of majority of the people.

The team also went to Ackom Farms where they were conducted round by the Farm Manager and the Managing Director, Mr E. A. Ackom.

He told them that apart from keeping a poultry, he has piggery, 40 acre citrus farm, 30 acre oil-palm and some vegetables and a labour force of 130.

The delegation also had the opportunity of visiting Combined Farms Ltd., where the visitors for the first time walked through pineapple farms while Major Nsiah (rtd), Farm Manager, explained the cultivation procedure to them.

At the Ghana Poultry Feed Mills Ltd the Managing Director, Mr Felix Brenya disclosed that though the production capacity is 96 tonnes, the mill produces only 15 tonnes in consonance with market requirements.

CSO: 3400/241

GHANA

MAIZE PRODUCER PRICES TO INCREASE SHARPLY

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 4 May 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by Mavis Quaicoe]

[Text]

THE producer price of a maxi bag of maize has gone up from C1,000 to C1,800 with immediate effect.

Dr P. A. Kuranchie, Managing Director of the Ghana Food Distribution Corporation (GFDC), said the increase is an incentive to maize farmers to increase their output and also as a means to sustain the level of maize production in the country.

Explaining further the rationale behind the new minimum guaranteed price

of maize at a press conference in Accra yesterday. Dr Kuranchie said the action would reduce the tendency of maize farmers shifting to the cultivation of tobacco.

According to him, the new price would cover production costs and assure farmers of about 25 percent profit for re-investment.

The managing director stated that government appreciates the marketing problems maize farmers encountered last year and is making efforts to avert the recurrence of a similar

situation.

He said this year's maize production level is targeted at 625,000 metric tonnes and hoped that farmers would endeavour to meet this target.

Dr Kuranchie assured farmers that the GFDC has enough funds to purchase the maize at the new producer price.

The managing director announced that his outfit has devised a system to eliminate middlemen from the maize purchasing business.

Officials of the GFDC

are to liaise with the CDRs and District Secretaries to identify farmers and ensure that maize is bought at the official price, he said.

The Secretary for Agriculture, Dr I. K. Adjei-Maafa, disclosed that as a result of the low producer price of maize, most farmers have gone into other agricultural ventures.

He said a survey of the Ashanti Region, for example, showed that most maize farmers have shifted to tobacco production which is apparently more lucrative.

Dr Adjei-Maafa said at the moment, only two percent of maize seedlings supplied by the Ghana Seed Company have been purchased by farmers; he warned that if this trend is not reversed, maize production for this year will be very low.

CSO: 3400/241

GHANA

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT TO UNDERGO SHAKE-UP

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 3 May 85 pp 1, 5

[Text]

THE Comptroller of Customs and Excise has dismissed four officers who disregarded departmental instructions which led to the removal of several containers from warehouses resulting in substantial evasion of taxes.

In a press release issued in Accra last night, Mr Ato Dadzie, Secretary at the PNDC Secretariat, named the four as Thomas Amoah-Mensah, Cooper Kwateng, S. R. K. Abotsie and William Emmanuel Antwi Agyei.

Nii Lante-Bruce and Walton K. Pinkra Derby, two senior inspectors who neglected to supervise junior officers, have also been retired from the service, the release said.

Twenty-six other customs personnel have also been dismissed for their involvement in various of-

fences.

They include Francis A. Y. Ofori, Kofi Owusu Adjei and Emmanuel Otchere, junior customs and excise officers, who have been dismissed on charges of falsification of receipt books.

The following assistant customs and excise officers, who have also been dismissed on the same charges, include Michael A. Aboagye, Benjamin A. Ofosu, Joseph Anguah-Anane, Ebenezer M. Djan and MacGat N. A. Frimpong.

Ibrahim Sasu-Mensah, a junior customs officer, was charged with preparation of incorrect landing account books.

Godfrey B. Afful and Gustarus A. Garshong, junior customs officers, were both dismissed for inaccu-

rate insertion of figures on seizure notices.

Joseph Adu-Darko, a senior collector and Cletus Selu Nabase, a grade II typist, were also dismissed for embezzlement of salaries.

Evarist D. Dery, an assistant inspector, was dismissed for illegal release of seized goods, while two assistant customs officers, Ghans-Lartey and Osman R. Abu, were charged with falsification of the deputy comptroller's signature and falsification of PBDR books respectively.

George Ngissah, an assistant inspector, was charged with unauthorised removal of uncustomed goods, while Kwabena K. Oppong, a customs officer, was punished for acceptance of illegal tips.

A senior collector, Nathaniel Odainkey, was also dismissed for the latter of-

fence.

Mavis O. Kumoi, Thomas Aidoo, and David Nutakor, all assistant customs officers, lost their jobs for aiding importers to evade tax.

S. Adjei-Attuah, an assistant inspector, was dismissed for embezzlement of state revenue; E. B. M. Amponsah, customs officer for demanding immoral reward.

Both Seth Nartey, a trainee junior customs officer and Theophylus Boye, an assistant accounts officer, were dismissed for forgery of bank stamps, the release stated.

Any member of the public who has knowledge of any property which cannot be accounted for by any customs officer should report to the Commissioner of Police C.I.D. or the Comptroller of Customs and Excise, the release requested.

CSO: 3400/241

GHANA

BRIEFS

RE-IMMIGRANTS SCANNED FOR INFILTRATORS--Security personnel and voluntary organizations engaged in the evacuation of Ghanaian immigrants affected by the Nigeria government's expulsion order are taking measures to combat crime along the border and check the possible infiltration of subversive elements into the country. A special task force has, therefore, been set up to screen all non-Ghanaians who might attempt to enter the country by the Aflao border with the returnees. Major Gershon Kwame Lumor, Aflao Border Security Co-ordinator in charge of the exercise, disclosed this when members of the National Evacuation Committee, led by Commodore Steve Obimpeh and members of the Volta Regional Security Council (REGSEC), led by Col Kwame Amable, visited the border on Tuesday to acquaint themselves with the operations of the Evacuation Committee. [Text] [Article by Jubilant Atuwo] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 9 May 85 p 1]

FRIMPONG URGES ARMY DISCIPLINE--Warrant Officer Cladd I, Isaac Frimpong, Forces Sergeant Major has said that soldiers in the country who think they can overthrow the government "must be joking". He also warned those whom he described as "internal dissidents" that they would not succeed in their efforts because the government is well aware of its security responsibilities. WO1 Frimpong, who was addressing soldiers of the Three Garrison in Sunyani noted that the civilian population respect the military because of its discipline but it seems that recognition is fast dying out and urged them to do all they can to revive their noted discipline. The Force Sergeant Major, said it is a matter of great concern that some soldiers leave their barracks without permission and go out sometimes to harass the civilian population and this practice must stop forthwith. "You should remember that they are our brothers and sisters so let us apply the Golden Rule which says "Do unto others what you expect them to do to you," he declared. Soldiers, he said, must not allow some people to use them to settle personal scores such as collecting debts, destooling chiefs and harassing traders. There was frank exchange of ideas and matters bordering on the welfare of the soldiers were also discussed in the presence of Lt-Col I. A. Ankrah, Garrison Commander. [Text] [Article by C. S. Buabeng] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY Graphic in English 29 Apr 85 p 8]

GDR RAIL NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY--The government is negotiating with the German Democratic Republic (GDR) for the supply of 30 new coaches to augment what the Ghana Railway Corporation (GRC) has. This does not form part of the current

World Bank project of the corporation. Mr S. S. Nayak, General Manager of the Corporation, disclosed this in an interview with newsmen at Tarkwa on Tuesday. He said 36 out of the corporation's coaches have been rehabilitated while eight of them will also be put in good condition this year with the remaining 26 being made ready by next year. According to Mr Nayak, the corporation will need a total of 200 coaches. He said 160 wagons for transporting bauxite, manganese, cocoa and timber have so far been rehabilitated while 340 others will be in good condition by December next year. Mr Nayak said as a means of developing human resources within the GRC, a training school would be opened by next year at Location in Sekondi to train all categories of workers. A new computer system, he further disclosed, will be installed for the accounting personnel, management, costing and project control with the restructuring of salary scales and promotional policies, as well as production incentives, Mr Nayak said. According to him, the GRC will need four million dollars annually to maintain the Western line after the completion of the rehabilitation programme. [Text] [Article by Kwame Penni] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 2 May 85 p 1]

SOVIET BOOKS FOR ARMY--The Soviet Embassy in Ghana has presented books and journals to the Ghana Armed Forces at the Burma Hall in Accra. Receiving the books on behalf of the Force Commander, the Director General of Personnel Administration, Col. R. B. Comney said the books had come at a time when the government was making every effort to provide books to schools and libraries. Col Comney said the gift could not be underestimated since the progress of society depended on an educated people. He said without books, ideas could not be carried from one part of the world to another. Considering the amount of foreign exchange involved in the importation of books, Col Comney expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Soviet Embassy in the provision of books worth £45,000 to the Education Directorate for distribution to libraries early this year. The present Exhibition of Books at the Burma Camp, he said, shows the seriousness the Soviet Union attaches to education in general. The books at the exhibition include those on Karl Marx, Frederick Engel, Lenin as well as a good number of novels, journals and science books. [Text] [Article by Abdul Aziz] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 17 May 85 p 5]

CSO: 3400/246

14 June 1985

IVORY COAST

BEGINNING OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Paris L'USINE NOUVELLE in French 25 Apr 85 pp 133-135

[Article by Bernard Duran]

[Text] After undergoing a forced austerity program the Ivory Coast is little by little resuming economic growth, thanks to abundant harvests. French companies should benefit from the recovery.

The Ivory Coast has almost passed through the worst of the economic recession. In the next few weeks it should conclude a new agreement with the IMF for a stand-by loan of \$79 million and, immediately after that, a new agreement with its public creditors for a rescheduling of its debt, for the second, consecutive year. The commercial banks, for their part, made their contribution in February 1985 by putting off payments due in 1985 and agreeing to a new loan of 1 billion French francs.

While this rescheduling of the debt has been under way, certain indications of a return to economic growth are already visible, and business circles are somewhat less pessimistic. The harvests of coffee and cacao are promising this year: 250,000 and 450,000 tons, respectively, and international market prices are favorable, whereas the preceding growing season, which was affected by drought, was disastrous. In general, the harvests of all agricultural commodities, including pineapples, bananas, cotton, rice, and rubber, will be very satisfactory.

In a country which is primarily agricultural and agro-industrial, these results will be decisive. Already manufacturers can see an increase in demand for major consumption items (food products, clothing, and bicycles), due to an increase in incomes in rural areas. In the cities demand remains stagnant, because salaries have been frozen for nearly 3 years, as part of the austerity measures previously adopted. A French banker in Abidjan said: "The good harvests will facilitate financial improvement. The Ivorian economy is fragile, but there is flexibility in agriculture. Perhaps growth this year will amount to 1 percent."

After 3 years of decline in the Gross National Product the return to economic growth is welcome. The Ivory Coast, which had recorded Japanese-type levels of growth for several years, declined abruptly into a deep recession at the beginning of the 1980's, with the sharp break in the prices of coffee and cacao. The expansion of major public works projects slowed down progressively. The figures in the construction and public works sector provide an idea of the extent of the crisis. In 1979 320 companies employed 57,000 people and had a sales volume of nearly 7 billion French francs. In 1983 there were only 229 companies, employing 20,000 people, with a sales volume of 4.3 billion French francs. The abandonment of the enormous Soubre Dam project, whose cost was estimated at 6.5 billion French francs, was a warning sign.

Today the decline has still not been halted. In 1984 the decline in activity was estimated by businessmen at more than 30 percent. Cantegrel, of the Setao-Bouyges Company, explained: "We only have small-scale activities under way at present. No contracts were awarded following the last substantial invitation to bid, to which we responded. No doubt this was due to a lack of finance. We have turned to neighboring countries, Guinea, Mali, and Niger."

With sales down by 30 percent in 1984, the automobile sector is in no better shape. In the production equipment and durable goods sector the end of the tunnel has not yet been reached. In fact the Ivorian economy is still being closely watched by the International Monetary Fund, and the austerity policy is being continued. The Ivorian authorities approved a very reasonable budget for 1985. Operational expenditures (8.3 billion francs) went down by 2.5 percent, in part as a result of measures taken to realign salaries in government offices and services. Investment expenditures were placed under a ceiling of 1.74 billion francs. No new large-scale project was included in the budget.

Despite the agreements reached with its creditors, the size of the debt, estimated at more than \$5 billion, will continue to weigh heavily on the country's finances. In effect, service on the debt will absorb nearly 40 percent of export receipts until the end of the 1990's. And the borrowing capacity of the country will remain limited during all of this period. Furthermore, the Ivory Coast will have to absorb the domestic debt (about 50 billion CFA francs), which will seriously penalize domestic companies. The Abidjan Chamber of Commerce recently alerted the Ivorian Government to the financial cost resulting from delays in payments by the state.

Companies Encouraged to Resume Normal Activity

In view of these constraints the possibilities for investment by the Ivorian Government will remain limited over the short term. However, certain leaders, tired of the present recession, are more favorable to a limited resumption of normal economic activity. At the Directorate for the Control of Major Public Works (DCGT), the central organization for bids on public works, officials are rather encouraging. Antoine Cesario, director of the DCGT, said: "In effect

the Ivory Coast has borrowed a considerable amount. And the country has had to adapt its resources to the crisis. However, it has made 25 years of progress in a short time. Already we are encouraging companies to resume activity. The levers of control are responding quickly, because President Houphouet-Boigny is a real boss who knows everyone."

In fact there already are numerous opportunities to resume economic activity in connection with internationally financed projects. In the highway infrastructure area the World Bank is supporting a group of road projects in the northern part of the country (worth 2 billion French francs). A project for the rehabilitation and expansion of hospital facilities (worth 390 million French francs) is under study. The construction of facilities for the Universities of Bouake and Korhogo, as well as the expansion of several university buildings, have been postponed but not canceled. Sooner or later the expansion in the port of San Pedro, the second largest Ivorian port, will be placed back on the agenda. This project will involve in particular the construction of several terminals for the transportation of citrus fruit, cement in clinker form, and petroleum products.

Substantial needs have also been noted in the field of social infrastructure. Thus, in 1983 only 1,000 housing units were constructed. Now, with a population of 10 million people, 2 million of whom live in the Abidjan area, and with a population growth rate of 4.5 percent, the housing shortage is a matter for concern.

The state has undertaken a reform of the specialized organizations established to improve financing arrangements and the conditions for access to home ownership. A forthcoming invitation to bid is scheduled for several projects of 200 to 250 housing units each which will be sold at moderate prices (1,000 French francs per square meter). In 1985 the essential objective is to build 2,500 housing units, and 4,000 to 5,000 units per year subsequently.

Many Projects Depend on International Financing

Most of the projects under study will not become a reality unless they obtain international financing. For the moment the World Bank has concentrated its efforts in particular on activities involving the restructuring of major public and semi-public enterprises, which have become virtually bottomless financial pits. This is the case with the Ministry of Public Works and the RAN (the Ivorian public corporation which operates the railroads), whose reorganization involves a "reform of the management systems" and "technical assistance." Many rehabilitation programs, often prolonged by the construction of new projects, have been carried out in the agro-industrial sector. They constitute a small-sized but not negligible market, provided the financing is available. The Ivory Coast has begun rehabilitating four sugar factories, reconverting two of them for producing seed and processing rice (World Bank financing, involving a cost of 600 million French francs). At the same time a consortium of companies led by Sucre et Denrees [Sugar and Foodstuffs Company] is building two centers at Borotou and Zuenoula. A major

program (worth 380 million French francs) has begun, involving the cultivation of palm oil (rehabilitation of the palm plantations and the development of byproducts). The construction of a palm oil refinery is planned in the near future (worth 2 to 4 million French francs). A livestock raising project will be carried out over 4 years by SODEPRA (Company for the Development of Animal Production), to reduce the country's deficit in the production of meat products, which will require equipment for livestock raising, vehicles, medicines, and technical assistance. In the forestry sector the African Development Bank is financing the reforestation of 10,000 hectares in the Bouake and Korhogo region and the installation of tree seed farms. Worth 180 million French francs, this project, of course, will include forest equipment, engines, tractors, etc.

In fact most of these sectors began to deteriorate over the last few years. The economic crisis placed increased pressure on lax management in a large number of companies. The Ivory Coast therefore has the new objective of improving its great agricultural potential by expanding agricultural production and its agro-industrial network, even establishing new companies. This resumption of growth involves restructuring large companies and providing assistance to small and medium sized enterprises and industries.

On the whole the Ivorians, a little like the Cameroonians, are looking for French partners who would provide funds and a certain amount of expertise in terms of management and sales. Reportedly, many opportunities remain to be exploited in the agro-food and agro-industrial areas: milk, crackers, preserves (pineapple, fruit juice, jams), products for the cosmetics industry (karite nut butter and coconut byproducts), and refrigerated items.

In the timber sector Ivorian industrialists issued an appeal to French companies to set up joint ventures at the Salon International Batibois [International Exhibition of the Lumber and Construction Industry] last fall.

Regarding rubber and rubber products, on which the Ivorian Government is placing greater emphasis (a program valued at 600 million French francs has been undertaken to double present production of about 35,000 tons between now and 1990), the need for new companies has already made itself felt. At the same time that the development of new rubber plantations is under way, the construction of a number of industrial units for turning out rubber products is planned. A project for the construction of a tire recapping factory for public works equipment is under study (worth 8 million French francs). We might note that Michelin already has a minority investment in a local company in this sector.

In fact certain French companies have already become involved in the Ivorian economic recovery process. The Bachman Company (business sales volume of 35 million French francs) has made an initial investment in the cacao warehousing sector and is preparing to invest 20 million French francs, together with ANVAR, in the warehousing of sweet potatoes and plantains.

One of the Largest Markets in West Africa

However, there is more to it than agro-industry. In the data processing and office systems sector, for example, foreign companies have not waited for invitations from the Ivorian Government. In the wake of the large construction companies many other companies have set up distribution networks in Abidjan and are competing for a small but expanding market. About 20 data processing companies and several computer training companies are competing in the provision of various services (installation and maintenance of equipment and specific software).

The reorientation of Ivorian economic policy in favor of small and medium sized enterprises and industries may leave the impression that the time for large projects is past. This is not completely true, because in one sector, at least--energy--the Ivory Coast has several projects in reserve.

Of course, the potential of the petroleum sector has been very disappointing. The estimated reserves of the Belier and Espoir fields, the two principal areas, have been estimated at between 9 and 10 million tons of crude oil, or 5 years of domestic consumption. Philipps Petroleum has just made a discovery in the area offshore Grand Lahou and Fresco which could increase the production from the Espoir field (now about 17,000 barrels per day). However, in general, geological difficulties have reduced interest in new exploration activity.

On the other hand natural gas, whose estimated reserves are more than 100 billion cubic meters, could involve the construction of several processing units. Large scale exploitation with a liquefaction unit provided on a turnkey basis seems out of the question, due to the slowness of the world petroleum market. Therefore, attention is being directed to projects oriented toward the domestic market: the substitution of natural gas for fuel oil for the Vridi thermal electricity generating station and the SIR (Ivorian Refining Company) refinery; a 300 megawatt thermal generator at Jacquelineville; and an ammonia and fertilizer unit with a productive capacity of 1,000 tons per day (to be operated by a joint venture in which CdF-Chemistry, Kellogg, and Fluor would participate). The distribution of natural gas would also involve major construction: an underwater pipeline 62 kilometers long or land pipelines to connect the Espoir and the Vridi fields.

Although the Ivorian recovery has taken a long time, the Ivory Coast nevertheless remains one of the largest markets in West Africa.

5170

CSO: 3419/386

MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

FRENCH OIL GROUP--The Compagnie Europeenne des Petroles headed by Michel Doumeng, son of France's so-called "red billionaire", Jean-Baptiste Doumeng, encountered a few problems with the Malagasy government last year which now seem likely to be settled. The problems arose from the prices charged by the CEP, usually higher than the normal rate by at least 50 cents a barrel (see I.O.N. No 142), which meant the company failed to renew its contract for supplying Madagascar with refined petroleum products. Those supplies amounted to 68 million French francs in 1983, but in 1984 CEP sales only totalled two million francs and were largely responsible for the France's 22 million franc deficit in trade with Madagascar. The loss of the contract resulted from a decision by Madagascar's central bank, under pressure from the International Monetary Fund, to impose a ceiling price on the country's oil distribution company, the SOLIMA, which was well below the price charged by the CEP. The contract with the Doumeng company now seems to have been renegotiated on a different basis. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 6]

EEC AID INCREASED--The European Economic Community is to increase its aid to Madagascar over the next five years by 22 million ECUs (around 15 million dollars). This extra assistance under the sixth European Development Fund programme brings the total to 10 million ECUs, compared with 78 million for the 1981-85 period. In principle, almost two-thirds of the allocation will go on rural development (38 per cent as against 34.7 per cent previously) and renewal of the infrastructure, essentially the road network (27 per cent compared with 25.2 per cent). This is in line with the strategy of Madagascar's 1984-87 public investment programme which was submitted last December to the consultative group meeting arranged by the World Bank. The EEC aid will give priority to the production of rice, maize and vegetable oil, as well as water resources and agricultural mechanisation. Assistance for trade and industry (up from 11.6 per cent of the total to 12 per cent) will benefit the private sector and will also enable Antsiranana become a centre for regional development. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 6]

PARLIAMENT REELECTIONS--The people's national assembly this morning reelected Lucien Andrianarahinjaka as its president. Albert Zakarias, Ranaivo Andriamanohisoa, Charles Randriananja, Michel Kapoma and Amido remain as vice presidents of the same assembly while Arthur Mata and Zefinandro Razanamparany were reelected as financial officials. [Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 17 May 85 MB]

MAURITIUS

BRIEFS

PORT LOUIS SEEKS AID--Port Louis is to request 95 million dollars in aid at the consultative group meeting of donor countries in Paris from May 13 to 15, finance minister Seetenah Lutchmeenaraidoo has said. He admitted that the government was setting its sights "very high". I.O.N.-Mauritius is facing a deterioration in its balance of payments, even though the recent fall in the value of the dollar and the rise of the pound sterling should have helped. The government is relying on a substantial development of the productive sectors of the economy, which will receive a quarter of all public investment (up from 18 per cent) under the just-published 1984-86 development plan. On the other hand, the government wants to continue restricting pay levels and cutting subsidies on rice and flour. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 7]

OIL CONTRACTS AWARDED--Caltex and the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) will be responsible for providing Mauritius with all of its oil needs in 1985-86, having submitted the best bids in response to an invitation for international tenders. KPC will be required to supply between 40,000 and 50,000 tonnes of heavy oil, and Caltex between 20,000 and 30,000 tonnes. Each will provide between 72,000 and 90,000 tonnes of other refined products. The value of the contract awarded to KPC totals 27.7 million dollars, and to Caltex 21.7 million dollars. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 7]

SUGAR DISCOVERY--The university of Mauritius, the multirational firm ICI and the Mauritian Happy World group have just perfected a yeast derived from molasses which will enable imports of animal feed products to be partially replaced. Marketing trials have been satisfactory and there is now the intention to build a plant for production. Britain and the European Economic Community will be approached for financial aid. The project fits the Mauritian government's policy both of diversifying the economy and making the maximum use of sugar cane. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 7]

MALAGASY TRADE MISSION--A delegation of the Mauritius chamber of commerce and industry will visit Madagascar between June 3 and 7. The mission is well-timed as Madagascar has just published a new investment code and imports of Mauritian goods will now be given preferential treatment. The visit also follows efforts by the Indian Ocean Commission to increase regional co-operation. [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 7]

NAMIBIA

VIABILITY OF PLANS FOR INTERIM GOVERNMENT DISCUSSED

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 23 Apr 85 p 12

[Interview with Professor Marinus Wiechers of the College of Law of UNISA by Otto Krause: "Despair Makes Way for Action"; date and place not given]

[Text] An interim government is going to be set up in Southwest Africa [SWA] and Otto Krause interviewed an expert on the politics of that area, Professor Marinus Weichers of the law faculty at UNISA [University of South Africa], on this important development.

[Question] Do the new arrangements for Southwest Africa which have been announced, hold any promise?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. In recent years many developments have taken place in the international area to bring about a settlement for SWA. During that period the internal politics of the area have stagnated however.

One almost got the impression of an internal despair. It was as if the anti-SWAPO parties had started getting the hopeless feeling that they would have to co-exist with a one-man government -- the administrator general -- until such time as the United Nations put its godchild SWAPO in power.

Fortunately, in this despair arose an urge to string together political powers to start with a new constitutional initiative without the directions or cooperation of the South African government.

This took shape in the form of the Multi-party Conference [VPK] and the introduction of a plan for an interim government for the country.

This large scale domestic stringing together of political forces can only offer good prospects.

[Question] Is this plan viable? Isn't it just another Turnhalle?

[Answer] The Turnhalle and the VPK must be seen in relation to one another. Political parties which did not exist before were born from the Turnhalle. In other words, political parties had to be born from the old ethnic government forms of the then existing apartheid structures in SWA.

In a next step, those new political parties had to bring their forces together with other political parties in order thus to broaden the base of internal reconciliation and unity.

The formation and cooperation of political parties is so important because political parties are as it were the actors on the constitutional stage.

The VPK succeeded in bringing together for the first time political actors from a very wide spectrum and to unite them in terms of goals and policy -- specifically, to promote peace and stability on a basis of protected human rights and democratic constitutionality.

In my opinion, the development of this large scale political cooperation which was achieved within a given order, can only be beneficial.

[Question] But isn't the whole attempt useless without SWAPO?

[Answer] The fact that SWAPO is not participating at this stage is of course due to SWAPO's own refusal.

Hence, one could say that through it SWAPO wants to strengthen its position as an outsider and a radical opponent of the existing system in order to create an even greater resistance organization.

As a matter of fact, it is true that if the coming transitional government is seen and experienced as the continuation of a colonial regime, SWAPO's revolutionary support will necessarily grow.

I am convinced, however, that SWAPO has underestimated the size and the depth of the reform and that its communist supported revolution has been overtaken and passed by this development.

Putting it simply, why would people continue to support a Marxist revolution if democratic parties have already joined in a government which achieves more advantages in a peaceful way?

The problem in SWA was that up to now there was no clear alternative to SWAPO. I am convinced that the VPK offers such a clear alternative.

[Question] But will it be possible for the Ovambo majority in Southwest Africa to be included in the new development?

[Answer] To be honest, one must recognize that to the extent that it is reflected in partisan reform, the ethnic Ovambo component is not represented very strongly in the VPK. Hence, one of the most important tasks of the political parties in the interim government will be to expand its support among the Ovambo people.

But this task also applies to all the population groups.

The political parties will be able to achieve this, on the one hand, by implementing real reform measures in the interim government and, on the other hand, by proceeding even more actively with the building up of a Namibian national republic in which people will not automatically think in terms of ethnic bloc formation.

In such a national republic the clear political choice will be either democracy or communism.

[Question] Will the new arrangement not have to be confirmed quickly by elections in order to earn credibility?

[Answer] That will depend on what the interim government decides. It may be possible that the broad coalition of leaders established within the VPK will want to broaden its popular support by means of elections.

If an internal settlement continues to drag on this would seem like a necessary development.

[Question] Don't these latest steps hinder the chances for an internationally recognized settlement?

[Answer] No, not at all. There is nothing in this development which makes the ultimate implementation of Resolution 435 impossible. Besides, in my opinion this development is the necessary prerequisite to create favorable and peaceful conditions for a future international election in pursuance of Resolution 435, and to sharpen the political choice between SWAPO and other domestic parties and the native population.

[Question] Then why is there such vehement international opposition to this step?

[Answer] On the one hand, because many countries in organizations have already committed themselves blindly to a SWAPO takeover and, on the other hand, because they are afraid of a possible unilateral declaration of independence on the part of SWA.

As soon as people realize that this development is aimed precisely at the establishment of an internationally recognized settlement, a great deal of this resistance should decline.

8463

CSO: 3401/115

SEYCHELLES

BRIEFS

ELECTRIFICATION PLAN--By the time the Seychelles Electric Corporation completes its part of the National Development Plan, 1985-89, it will have brought electric power to 70 percent of the nation, including 80 percent of the homes of Mahe, 70 percent of Praslin and 60 percent of La Digue. The laying of underwater cables will extend electrical service to the many small islands in the area. The cable connecting Baie Ste Anne Station on Praslin with La Digue, 5 June, cost 12 million rupees. The plan includes a 65.9 million rupee project of which 21.3 million is earmarked for the installation of large electrical generators and 39.6 million for a distribution system. Another 17 million was spent on the Mahe distribution system and 9.6 million to provide electric power to nearby isles. [Excerpts] [Victoria NATION French Creole 16 May 85 p 3]

WATER TREATMENT PLAN--Under the National Development Plan, by 1988, 95 percent of the people will be receiving treated water. The cost of dams and water distribution system in southern Mahe will be 151 million rupees. Along with 15 other water projects, including 13 water treatment stations to supply about 30,000 people by means of 8,000 connections, the total cost will be 289 million. Another large dam will be built to form l'Azare Bay and will serve about 18,000 people. La Gogue is the largest dam in Seychelles. The west Mahe coast, which has three large hotels and two National Youth Service camps accommodating more than 2,000, has practically no water treatment facilities. Projects for this area include channeling three rivers into a reservoir and establishing a distribution system. Eastern Mahe water development plans include the installation of pipes from Anse aux Pins to Answ Royale and pipelines to connect southern Mahe and the surrounding areas. [Excerpts] [Victoria NATION French Creole 3 May 85 p 3]

CSO: 3400/278

SOMALIA

BRIEFS

EXCHANGE RATE PROTEST--The use by Mogadishu of a rate of exchange unfavourable to United Nations agencies could lead to a reduction in the amount of funds being allocated to refugees in Somalia, U.N. secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar reportedly warned Somali president Mohamed Siad Barre in a personal message sent March 23. According to the International Herald Tribune newspaper, the Somali head of state replied that if U.N. agencies were given "favoured status" it could "adversely affect" Somalia's economic plans. This unusual dispute arises from the devaluation of the Somali shilling and the introduction of two rates of exchange for the currency on January 1 this year in measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund as part of a new economic recovery programme for Somalia. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 27 Apr 85 p 8]

CSO: 3400/278

SOUTH AFRICA

TALKS WITH MODERATE BLACK LEADERS DEEMED ESSENTIAL

Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 23 Apr 85 p 12

[Editorial: "A Problem of Black Fears"]

[Text] President P.W. Botha's appeal to other political parties to cooperate in negotiations with black leaders certainly proves his sincere desire to find a settlement through negotiation and not through orders.

This also indicates the government's most serious problems however, specifically to persuade the black leaders to participate in talks. For a variety of reasons, precisely those black leaders with whom talks should be held do not want to be seen in the government's company right now.

The talks should focus on the future, especially the political future, of blacks outside the independent and national states. But this should also bring round the position of those national states which do not want to become independent.

The black leaders without whom such talks would not make any sense, are people like Chief Ministers Gatsha Buthelezi and Inkatha, certain group leaders within the VDF [United Democratic Front], important trade union leaders and probably also religious leaders such as Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Reverend Sam Buti.

The gladdening thing is that the government is not sitting back with its hands crossed. It is making both public and private efforts and is creating the opportunity and the conditions for talks. There is the Special Government Committee, the forum offered by the president in his address at the opening session of parliament, and now again the invitation to political parties. And his good intentions have also been proven in his actions toward the Zion church.

He makes one unconditional reservation. He rejects violence as a method of reform and demands the same from those who sit down with him.

A second principle is the right of every group to self-determination within the broader framework of joint government with regard to common matters. Without that, the National Party would not be able to bring its own voters round to the necessary reform. We expect that if the talks do get under way, this will not be as one-sided a condition as it sometimes appears to be now.

The most important condition for the talks is that the National Party and the government will not draw up a prescribed framework which can be accepted, rejected or amended. The black leaders are invited to come up with proposals themselves. The goal is to work out a new arrangement together around the table. We cannot imagine anything more fair and more just.

We understand the fears and misgivings of the black leaders, about their concerns, about their image and influence. However, reform is a risky game for all participants, to the same extent also for the whites.

The greater danger is that, through their hesitation, the responsible leaders may cut off their own hands to the advantage of the advocates of violence. They could, quicker and easier than is the case for the whites, become the victims of the campaign of violence.

8463

CSO: 3401/116

SOUTH AFRICA

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY TOWARD GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED

Bloemfontein DIE VOLKSBLAD in Afrikaans 17 Apr 85 p 14

[Editorial: "It Is Sometimes Irritating"]

[Text] The behavior of the Reagan administration with regard to South Africa reminds one somewhat of that of a big kid who tries to keep his irresponsible younger brothers from hurting the little boy across the street. In his attempts to convince his own family he often does things which irritate the little kid on the other side immeasurably -- and on top of that he cannot even guarantee that he will always be able to keep the troublemakers on his own premises in check.

The views expressed yesterday evening by Mr George Shultz about South Africa have an extremely positive orientation: he rejected the activities by members of congress to introduce all kinds of punitive measures against South Africa and pleaded with the Americans to support President Reagan's "quiet approach to end apartheid." Divestment is currently a serious point of contention in America and those like Kennedy, Solarz and others, who are looking for black voters in America by irresponsible means, are very busy stirring up the campaign against South Africa.

To add strength to their arguments the Reagan people are rather free in taking credit for every development in Southern Africa which they can hold up to the American people as a positive step. Thus they claim credit for everything that happens in South Africa which is acceptable to them, to the irritation of South Africans who know for example that the first steps toward the new constitutional arrangement were already taken while Jimmy Carter was still in the White House. And at the time, nobody outside South Africa saw anything positive in such a development.

Within South Africa such views are of course seized by the far right to show that now South Africa is being reduced to "a colony of America," as Mr Jaap Marais put it. Therefore reasonable South Africans welcome it when Minister Pik Botha raps the Americans on the knuckles for their arrogant behavior -- even though they know that they should also be thankful for the fact that Mr Shultz is taking a stand against the divestors.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEVELOPMENTS IN NAMIBIA SEEN AS POSITIVE STEP

Opportunity for Southwest Africa

Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 23 Apr 85 p 16

[Editorial: "The Opportunity for the Southwesterners"]

[Text] It has been said more than once that Southwest Africa has too many people who want to be political leaders and too many political parties for a region with such a small population.

The population is estimated at about 1 million, more than half a million less than the population of Johannesburg. And then splits within parties and population groups are not uncommon in Southwest Africa, as anyone knows who has followed events there over the last 10 years alone.

In the days when the Turnhalle conference was singlemindedly on the way to working out a meaningful independence and their own government, there was an optimism in the region and a solidarity among the people that had never been known before.

Alas, this attempt also failed and the people -- especially the whites -- were so divided during the following years that it seemed as if they would never get back together.

Still, during the past months it has been proven that there are those among the people of Southwest Africa whose intentions about unity are honest and that time is running short to achieve that unity in the face of a common enemy, SWAPO.

In this spirit the Multi-party Conference [VPK] came about, with representatives from several parties, which shortly before had been political enemies, seated around the same table.

This resulted in the constitutional proposals which a delegation from the conference presented to the president last month.

Following Mr Botha's statement last week it would seem that generally speaking South Africa supports the proposals.

Now the leaders of Southwest Africa have been given the green light to work out their constitutional future for themselves.

We can only hope that they will take advantage of this big opportunity.

International Reaction

Bloemfontein DIE VOLKSBLAD in Afrikaans 19 Apr 85 p 12

[Editorial: "Strange Logic"]

[Text] The lack of principles -- moral, logical and otherwise -- which is at the base of international politics, is once again being clearly illustrated by the positions concerning Southwest Africa taken by America, Britain, the FRG and Canada toward the government of South Africa. They subscribe to the United Nations decision that South Africa governs Southwest Africa "illegally," but they ask them not to make waves by setting up an interim government at the request of the Multi-party Conference.

As Minister Pik Botha put it: "If the administrator general is there illegally, what does it matter if another body is illegally there?"

Indeed, the method by which Southwest Africa is governed internally until an internationally recognized settlement is perhaps reached one day, should not affect the international status of the region. The world has recognized that South Africa is de facto responsible for Southwest Africa and can always negotiate with it.

There is evidently a fear that the VPK will develop into a body which would also have to be involved in international negotiations, and the Western Four remember the twists they have already taken in order to talk with representatives of internal parties -- and to sidestep them.

The government has provided its reasons for granting limited responsibilities to an interim body, among others that it is necessary for the region to produce its own leaders to work out its future and to accept responsibility for its administration. One could add to this the consideration that it is desirable to reward moderation and not to create the impression that South Africa wants to govern everything in Southwest Africa itself.

While South Africa redeems its promise of protection to the inhabitants of South Africa and accepts responsibility before the world, it gives the moderates the opportunity to establish their leadership role and to be accepted by the inhabitants. South Africa has confidence that they will take advantage of this new opportunity and will not once again paralyze themselves so much by internal fights that further interventions will be necessary.

8463

CSO: 3401/115

SOUTH AFRICA

COMMENTARY ON RECENT APARTHEID REFORMS

Pace of Reform

Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 13 May 85 p 10

[Editorial: "Pace of Reform"]

[Text] Assessment of the present rate of social and political reform in South Africa brings to mind the sentence made famous by President Ronald Reagan: "You ain't seen nothin' yet!"

Indeed. From whatever perspective you look at the recent changes--from the repeal of discriminatory legislation to the announcement concerning provincial councils and the establishment of new management structures at the second and third levels of government--they are drastic, since they break away from a system that over the course of several decades has been built up around a fixed pattern of total separation, both social and political.

The rare phenomenon of this type of reform lies not only in the legal measures that it has to address and regulate, but in the adaptation of the communities that it directly affects. After all, the success of the reform plan will depend on whether white groups are prepared to accept it and adapt to it.

During the present parliamentary session the pace was quickened so much that it was sometimes staggering.

Three months ago no one would have bet that the Mixed Marriages Act and Article 16 of the Immorality Act would be repealed during this session, nor that the right of land tenure by blacks in cities would be recognized, not that the physical removal of black communities would be stopped, nor that influx control would be revised.

And what about last week's announcement that provincial councils are to be abolished and that whites, coloreds and Asians will be sitting together on regional services councils?

What next, the bewildered observer could well ask.

And how soon?

All that is sure at this stage is that reform is here to be implemented. The question is whether the whole process will later be rejected at the polls. Perhaps this will be determined by the rate of reform. The government's view is apparently not too fast, but certainly not too slow.

Some aspects, such as the ultimate political future of blacks, remain very uncertain.

The no is to one man, one vote.

The yes is to a plan which will ensure group rights while satisfying non-white political aspirations.

Ultimately this final stage of reform will make what has happened until now seem totally trivial.

Influx Control Revision

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 13 May 85 p 10

[Editorial: "Influx"]

[Text] There is clearly new thinking being done with respect to influx control, which will hopefully result in finally setting aside the ideological wishful thinking that has characterized the issue for so long. If this had been done long ago, the problems surrounding the situation of urban blacks certainly would have been more manageable.

When Minister Gerrit Viljoen announced last week that the existing legislation on influx control is to be fundamentally revised, he pointed out that the policy pursued thus far has had the negative effect of obstructing the normal urbanization of blacks.

In actuality, influx control has never succeeded in controlling influx; whoever doubts this should just take a look around in white areas. But because it was official policy that blacks should not be there, provisions for their urbanization were not made to the degree necessary. Even long after it was obvious that a miscalculation had been made in the theory that the flow of blacks into white areas could be reversed by 1978, the policy was sustained as if to close our eyes to the blacks in our midst.

In part, the bitter fruit of this policy is now probably being reaped in that we now have primarily a highly unstable black proletariat in and around our cities, while we could have had a well-established middle class that would have had something to lose and would help establish stability.

Dr Viljoen expressed the opinion that black urbanization is both inevitable and necessary. If such urbanization can also take place away from traditional white areas, then it is all the better from the standpoint of decentralization. But when it inevitably takes place primarily in white areas due to all sorts of economic factors, it is high time that no stone be left unturned in establishing orderly and stable communities. In that case, we are all at least actively making a virtue of necessity in everyone's interest.

SOUTH AFRICA

CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDE ON WHITE IDENTITY ATTACKED

Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 26 Apr 85 p 14

[Editorial: "Duty of a Government"]

[Text] There can be no responsible government supporter who does not share the concern of the KP [Conservative Party] and the HNP [Reformed National Party] about the continued existence and identity of the whites in this country. Even if Mr Jaap Marais and Dr A.P. Treurnicht said at their "protest meeting" in Pretoria that the national government is purposefully bringing about miscegenation.

No government in the history of Africa has, with so much courage, sweat and painful sacrifice, dared such a thorough reform for the sake of protecting the identity of minority groups.

It would have been so much easier to have maintained the status quo and only to have looked after their own (white) interests, to have turned a blind eye on the fate and aspirations of the many others and to have thrown justice as a norm overboard.

And if in democratic elections even the slightest trace of a selfish motive were to arise, it would fail in practice if such a motive were to begin to apply to the administration of a country.

The government of the day must naturally call itself firmly to account and account for the fate and wellbeing of the people whose lives it governs, because it makes decisions about everyone, its voters who put them in power and the others who look up to it.

Dissatisfaction and unhappiness among its own people could cost them dearly at the ballot box. Similarly, injustice toward the other legal inhabitants of the country could seriously threaten them -- threaten them with revolution.

When some of the voters are moved to turn against the government, even to revolt because it does not grant them more privileges than other groups and communities, then it is wrestling with serious growing pains.

By measuring and testing its consistent approach with justice, a smart government can enter a transitional era such as we are now experiencing with confidence. After all, every population group itself has the responsibility to help preserve its identity, as long as it acts in an orderly and civilized manner.

SOUTH AFRICA

NEWSPAPER PROMISES TO LEAD FIGHT AGAINST OPPENHEIMER

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 24 Apr 85 p 6

[Article: "Harry Oppenheimer Enters Politics"]

[Text] Mr Harry Oppenheimer has given up his cautiousness of many years' standing and stepped into the political arena with a hard slap in the face of the Afrikaner people.

It is really unbelievable and incomprehensible that he dared to label the conservative Afrikaners as the "lunatic fringe" -- a small handful of fools or idiots!

In due course we will go more deeply into certain aspects of Mr Oppenheimer's business interests, especially in the past, but for now we would like to say that Mr Oppenheimer certainly sees himself as the person who will run the NP/PFP [National Party/Progressive Federal Party] coalition.

Meanwhile we have heard from diamond circles that a good deal of South Africa's diamond supplies have been stored in London and that, in all probability, the South African taxpayer will be saddled with the payment of the high interest rate on the high diamond prices as a result of the weak rand. At the same time it would seem that the South African diamond supplies have been revalued against the new dollar price which increased the interest even further. Who the interest will be paid to is not clear at this time. Is it perhaps to one of the group's financing bodies abroad? Or is the interest paid only on the mining costs of diamonds? Will De Beers in the meantime sell only its heaped up South African supplies and will we really get the full price for it? In the final analysis, diamond prices (expressed in rand) have nearly doubled. Will newly mined diamonds be withheld for the time being so that there will be cooperation in the foreign currency shortage? (Which the big monetary powers can use to their advantage by allowing the rand to weaken).

We have heard quite a number of rumors which sound credible and there can be no question of "craziness" if we ask the Oppenheimer group to inform readers of DIE AFRIKANER whether the rumors are true or untrue.

If the Oppenheimer group does not react, it would seem to us that it will be unnecessary for the government itself to intervene in those matters in order to reassure the taxpayers that everything is right with the handling of the country's mineral wealth.

SOUTH AFRICA

RECTOR SEES INTEGRATION OF UNIVERSITY AS GOING SMOOTHLY

Bloemfontein DIE VOLKSBLAD in Afrikaans 29 Apr 85 p 11

[Article: "Non-White Students No Problem at US: Character Intact, Says Rector"]

[Text] Cape Town--The distinctive character and discipline of the University of Stellenbosch [US] have in no way been affected by the admission of non-white students, says the rector, Professor Mike de Vries.

DIE VOLKSBLAD approached Professor De Vries in connection with the Conservative Party [CP] defamatory pamphlet concerning the limited admission of non-white students to the University of the Orange Free State [UOFS], especially the contention by the CP that UOFS in so doing will irrevocably lose its character.

Problems

Professor De Vries said in an interview that Stellenbosch, which has admitted non-white undergraduates and post-graduate students since 1978, did indeed experience small problems at the outset and that there was uncertainty in the student body about how the non-whites would fit in. However, all the fears and uncertainties have in the meantime been laid to rest.

Whereas 42 persons of other colors studied at US in 1978, the number has grown to slightly more than 200 this year. US places no post-graduate restrictions on student admissions, while non-white undergraduates are admitted to specified courses of study that they cannot pursue at their own universities, as well as whenever specified major subjects in certain courses of study are not offered at non-white universities. The children of the university's colored staff members can pursue any course of study at US.

According to Professor De Vries, the largest groups of non-white students are in medicine, engineering, agriculture, forestry and in specialized fields such as studies for bachelor of music, design arts and drama. The students are in all respects regarded and treated as students with full and equal status.

They have access to all facilities--including sports facilities--at US and can also belong to any club, be elected to student council, and can even be nominated for carnival queen or princess.

Housing

"I can honestly say that we have experienced no problems with them. The only problem is housing because they cannot stay in the boarding houses. However, the university helps them to find housing with private people in the colored residential areas by composing a list of suitable accommodations. The homes must also be deemed suitable for study purposes; for example, we will not recommend a place where there are too many people and children.

"Since 1980, US has also had the right to house non-white students in houses on campus, and the houses on the so-called Hendriks estate--which consists of small holdings that the university has bought up over the years--are used for this."

Only

The university has also received permission this year to build housing units for black students on the Hendriks estate. The first housing unit, which will house 10 students, will be built before long. Stellenbosch is the only university in the country with a forestry department, and the housing unit will be built to house black forestry students. The construction of the unit is also made possible by a grant from the forestry industry.

Professor De Vries says that he can go on record as saying that the conduct of the non-white students is on the average very good. "The students who come here are Afrikaans-speakers by birth and really want to receive instruction in Afrikaans. The question should also be considered of whether it is not desirable that the leadership of the black and colored communities rub elbows with white Afrikaner students during their formative years," Professor De Vries says.

12271

CSO: 3401/119

SOUTH AFRICA

ADMISSION FEES TO MIXED BEACHES PROPOSED

Johannesburg DIE BEELD in Afrikaans 27 Apr 85 p 3

[Article: "Better Behavior Predicted on Beaches"]

[Text] Mr Chris Joubert, municipal council member for District 1 in the Cape and member of the Conveniences and Health Committee, said yesterday that he predicts that the reduction in numbers and better managed beaches and swimming pools will result in people being more accomodating and better behaved.

"With the committee recommendations which will be considered Tuesday at the monthly council meeting, the council has an opportunity to restore order on the beaches and at swimming pools. In 1978 already I predicted that the paying of fees for admission to the beaches would be implemented. If people can mix without discomfort and racial conflict, then you have proven something," he said.

"I will appeal to the council to adopt those recommendations. I know that some council members do not want to. I am a little afraid that the paying of admission fees will be seen in the context of racial discrimination. I want to nip that in the bud."

"I am very optimistic that if we limit numbers a code of good behavior will be maintained and the beaches where admission fees are paid will see the local inhabitants visit them repeatedly. They had withdrawn because they did not want to be crowded out."

Visitors at the Kampsbaai tidal pool have been paying in recent years. The behavior of those people was better than that of many of those on the rest of the beach, he said.

The recommendation to move part of the fence surrounding the Kampsbaai tidal pool eastward in order to include part of the beach for payment of admission fees is very important.

"If the municipal council does not adopt this, Mr Jack Frost, fellow council member for the district, and I will pursue the matter further. Kampsbaai was the focus of complaints."

He wants to appeal to the government to support the whole concept of payment at beaches and control over the numbers. The future of the country lies in the control of numbers and the implementation of "socio-economic discrimination," by which he means that a person has to pay for the conveniences he enjoys.

Mr Mel Richter, chairman of the Citizens Organization of Kampsbaai and the district said that the organization will meet in executive session on Wednesday evening (following Tuesday's municipal council meeting) to discuss the council decisions. He refused to make any comments before then.

Mr Harold Ross, chairman of the executive committee of Kensington and Labor Party member of the House of Representatives, said yesterday that the four executive committees within the area of Cape Town were not consulted on the matter. "We were never considered. The municipal council is supposed to consult with us about our own matters and matters of general interest."

Mr Peter Muller, president of the municipal council's Conveniences and Health Committee, receives all the council's agenda and is welcome any time to make representations about the beaches and swimming pools.

The agenda of the monthly municipal council meeting (which includes the recommendations involved) will now be sent to the municipal council members and the management committees.

8463

CSO: 3401/161

SOUTH AFRICA

VAN DER MERWE'S DOCUMENT ON BLACKS ANALYZED

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 7

[Article by Paul Bell]

[Text]

THERE is nothing remarkable, say Nationalists, about the latest party document on the constitutional future of blacks — it's all been said before. And they are right.

The document, a booklet entitled "... and what about the Black People?" by Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, MP for Helderkruijn, draws on statements by the State President and Cabinet Ministers and poses the question that Nationalists say was most frequently asked in the run-up to the referendum 18 months ago.

What is remarkable, perhaps, is that this document — a consolidated statement of Government thinking rather than intent — seems to be the opening shot of a battle to get the party faithful to accept a new wave of constitutional change designed to include blacks.

One thing has become clear to the National Party: the process of building black participation from the bottom up has failed.

The black municipal dispensation introduced in the past two years has been a demonstrable failure, rejected by most urban blacks who regard a vote at local government level as entirely insufficient.

Their anger at being left out of the last round of constitutional redesign has been partly demonstrated in the increasing tide of violence which has swept through townships throughout the country during the past seven months.

And they have made their point. The Government now realises that

the inclusion of blacks must be negotiated from top and bottom simultaneously.

The new beginning pledged by the State President at Morija at Easter could, in the final analysis, draw on a blend of governmental structures, all subsumed under the general concept of "co-operative co-existence".

Nationalist MPs say several ideas of which way to go are being floated in inner party circles, although nobody is wedded too firmly to any particular formula.

The notion of a "fourth chamber" is dispatched by Dr Van der Merwe as being the easy way out: blacks are too different and too numerous.

A federal or regional solution could be on the cards, which might give blacks a full vote in particular areas, and a vote balanced against those of the white, coloured and Indian communities at the level of central government, to protect minority rights and ensure that no one group can dominate another.

"There are several possibilities," says Dr van der Merwe. "The national states might obtain powers over some of the areas outside their borders; local authorities might be given considerably wider powers; local authorities might be linked together in authoritative structures encompassing larger areas; new bodies comparable to the white provincial councils might be established; a national assembly of black people outside the national states might be brought into being; some of these bodies might be involved in decision-

making at the highest level in conjunction with the South African Parliament and the governments of the national and possibly even the independent states."

Apart from constitutional mechanisms, freehold for blacks is in the pipeline, influx control may at least be ameliorated, citizenship is under discussion.

The deal that the Government is trying to sell — as much to its own supporters as to blacks — is that no side will get quite what it wants.

The Government has four years in which to complete the next round of redesign, with as broad a degree of moderate support as it can muster.

They are convinced that they will face no further splits in party ranks over the inclusion of blacks: those who would have quit on the issue of black participation did so when the matter of the coloureds and Indians was decided.

They anticipate winning support to the left of the National Party, eating into Progressive Federal Party support, and going on to formulate

the South African version of Jesse Jackson's rainbow coalition — drawing in moderates of all races.

It seems clear that the Government cannot satisfy those groups of "radical" persuasion to its left and right and has no intention of trying.

So, while the nation holds its breath for a new round of constitution-making, all parties can disabuse themselves of the notion that the Government will address the demands by groups like the United Democratic Front, or the banned African National Congress, for a unitary system of government.

Instead, as Government negotiates with moderate groups on the design of structures for the implementation of its new philosophy of "co-operative co-existence", the country could face intensified violence in black townships countered by tougher police/military action.

South Africa may well be moving into an era of "benevolent dictatorship" — change in the right direction, supported by a heavy dose of law and order to contain leftwing and rightwing violence. It could be a long four years.

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

HEUNIS SETS 1988 AS FINAL DATE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 10 May 85 p 4

[Text]

ALL general municipal elections are to be postponed until 1988, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, announced yesterday.

Speaking during the committee stage of his department's vote, Mr Heunis said the date of future local government elections had been subject to misconceptions in some quarters.

In 1984 the Co-ordinating Council of Local Government Affairs had recommended a uniform term of office of five years for all councillors.

It was recommended that a date be set on which all councillors would vacate their seats simultaneously, after which elections would be held every five years.

This recommendation had been accepted by the Government and 1988 had been selected as the most suitable date at which to effect the changeover.

"At a subsequent meeting of the co-ordinating

council in March, the council again discussed the matter and recommended that in certain provinces general municipal elections be held during 1985 and 1986.

"In certain quarters these amended recommendations of the co-ordinating council were interpreted in good faith as decisions of the Government."

Mr Heunis said that to remove any possible misunderstanding he wished to confirm that the Government had considered the amended recommendations of the co-ordinating council and had decided to reaffirm its 1984 decision.

"This means that general municipal elections for all councillors of local government bodies will be held in 1988 on dates to be determined by the various Administrators after consultation with the Ministers of local government."

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

UNITY AMONG BLACKS WILL REDUCE KILLING BUT ENDANGER NATION

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 9 May 85 p 14

[Text] It is encouraging to see a serious concern growing among Blacks over the bloodshed they are perpetrating and the havoc they are wreaking upon themselves and that simply refuses to subside. Only recently, incidents of extreme violence, including the burning of people, have again occurred.

The uneasiness among Blacks manifests itself clearly in the chorus of voices in the black press, which is already rising in a crescendo of outrage against the chronic disturbances, and in the efforts of Bishop Desmond Tutu and other black leaders to bring to an end the perpetration of acts of violence.

Every peace effort must be welcomed and encouraged. The vicious circle of violence followed by acts of reprisal is tearing the black communities apart and plunging them into anarchy. Not only does it have a crippling and destructive effect on their social and economic progress, but it also works to the disadvantage of the nation as a whole. This affects each and every one of us.

Bishop Desmond Tutu's plea for reconciliation among the warring black factions is based on the fact that unity is now more than ever a vitally important matter in the "struggle for freedom." Thus they must unite and not squander their energy in combatting one another, because they have another battle to win. A battle against whom?

Seeds of danger lie hidden in such an attitude. Some people may view the actual intention as a combined assault by Blacks against other segments of the population. If the winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace wants to see justice done, it is important for him to show by word and deed that such an attack must not degenerate into another kind of violence.

This week a black newspaper warned that the violence that is now limited to black neighborhoods will "inevitably" spill over into other areas. That is not impossible. Recently a colored man was stabbed to death in Graaff-Reinet because he refused to take part in an incident of intimidation. It was not the first time this year that Coloreds have been killed by black rioters.

The paper also warned that if Whites are the targets of attacks, the consequences will be horrible to contemplate. This is an admonition that Bishop Tutu and certain other black leaders may undoubtedly take to heart.

SOUTH AFRICA

DIVERSIFICATION OF POLICIES ACCORDING TO AREA PRAISED

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 8 May 85 p 14

[Text] Evidently in South African politics the sentiment is increasing that there is no single solution to the complicated problems of the nation, but rather that they require a variety of solutions, each dependent on its particular circumstances.

Thus it looks as if, within certain guidelines, we shall be moving more and more toward distinctive regional solutions for regional problems, varying from the small to the very large. The coming of the new dispensation, its continued implementation and the endeavor to cope with black needs are going to create plenty of opportunities to devise different plans suitable for different situations.

With the latest changes, we are just one step closer to the delegation-of-authority ideal, which, especially on the level of local government and the contemplated regional councils, will bring a brand-new dispensation to South Africa. Acceptance of the notion that a province such as Cape Province may possibly be divided into three geographical districts further confirms that thought.

One may agree that the principle can also be profitably implemented elsewhere in the country. In that respect, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, minister of cooperation and development, made an interesting statement in parliament. He said that as far as Natal and kwa-Zulu were concerned, certain sections of the Buthelezi Report might be examined more closely as a possible basis for negotiation.

The Buthelezi Report, on the relationships between Natal and kwa-Zulu, is a typical example of an effort to untangle the complexities of a particular situation--and the intertwined geographical and economic relationship between those two regions is indeed unique in South Africa--by means of a made-to-order solution.

What is interesting is that we shall be taking an impartial look at the diversity of South Africa's people, their viewpoints and circumstances, and that within the broad national interests, we shall have to look for formulas suitable to each situation. This means that the highest priority can thus be given to local and regional interests.

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CSO: 3401/171

SOUTH AFRICA

STATUS OF EKANGALA VERSUS KWANDEBELE DISCUSSED

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 26 Apr 85 p 9

[Article: "Government Aware of Unrest"]

[Text] Allegations that the people of Ekangala were lured to the village under false pretenses were denied by the Department of Cooperation, Development and Education. The department is aware, however, of the dissatisfaction in the village about the planned annexation to KwaNdebele.

A spokesman for the department in Pretoria, Mr Johan Oosthuizen, told BEELD that the decision to annex Ekangala to KwaNdebele was made only recently by the government.

An official announcement about the future of the village was made on 25 February by the minister of cooperation, development and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

Hence it is possible that at the time they moved in some of the inhabitants were not aware of the plans to annex the village to KwaNdebele.

According to Mr Oosthuizen, the department is aware of the dissatisfaction in the village. "The alleged attacks on people who are opposed to annexation, are still allegations about which the department has no proof," he said.

When asked, Mr Simon Skosana, chief minister of KwaNdebele, stated that he had no knowledge of those alleged attacks. He did not want to make any further comments.

Mr Oosthuizen pointed out that the government has provided the necessary guarantees for the preservation of the inhabitants' rights under Article 10(i). As far as the rights of children are concerned, the current situation in South Africa is still applicable.

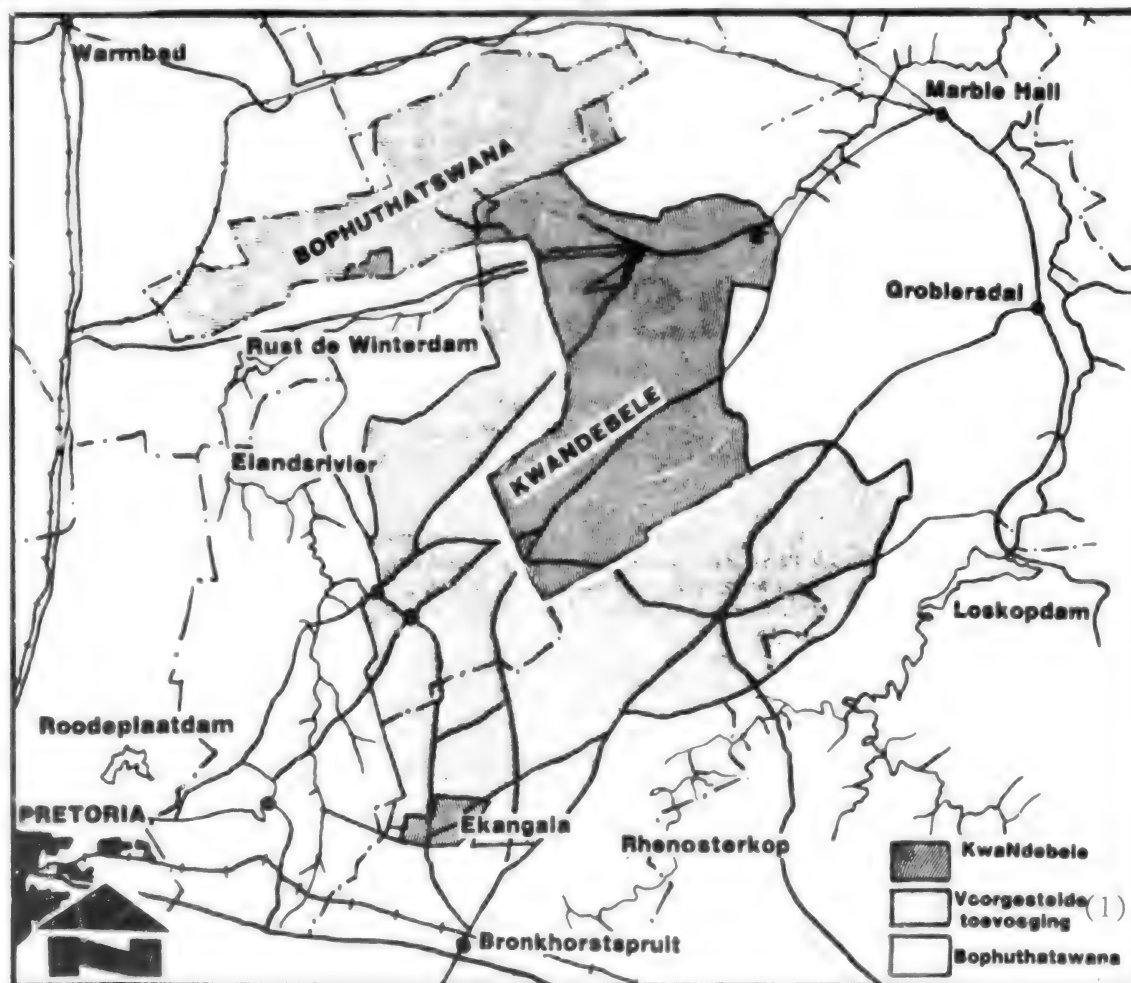
According to Dr Viljoen's February statement it is not possible, for practical and political reasons, for the Ndebeles and the multi-ethnic parts of Ekangala to develop and be administered under two different administrations.

The new village also serves to promote industrial development in the interest of KwaNdebele. The government has affirmed the principle that Bronkhorstspuit/Ekangala is a balanced deconcentration point for the PWV [Pretoria,

Witwatersrand, Vereeniging industrial area] area and that the deconcentration of the PWV area should have the highest priority.

Hence, Ekangala has two development goals, specifically as an urban development for the Ndebeles and as a multi-ethnic village, even though in terms of employment and housing preference must be given to Ndebeles.

Table: Location of KwaNdebele and Ekangala



The map shows the location of KwaNdebele including Ekangala and Ekandustria. The existing territory of KwaNdebele is the colored area next to Marble Hall and Groblersdal, on the right of the white line. The colored part on the left of the white line is white territory which will be added to KwaNdebele. Ekangala is part of that area and is located way at the bottom, north of Bronkhorstspuit.

Key: 1. Proposed addition

Hence, Ekangala is being developed and administered as a unit. The development is taking place under the South African Development Trust, with the Eastern Rand Development Council as its agent and with provisions for structured consultation and cooperation by the KwaNdebele government.

The village will be annexed as a whole to the homeland at a yet to be negotiated date. Provisions will be made, in agreement with the government of KwaNdebele, to protect the rights of non-Ndebeles who live in the village as well as for the settling of non-Ndebeles in multi-ethnic parts of Ekangala.

Provisions are also being made through amendments to the effect that people who enjoy privileges under Article 10(i) of the Black Urban Areas Act of 1945, will not forfeit those privileges if they move to a trust area or to a national state.

The development of the Ekandustria industrial area will remain partly in KwaNdebele and partly in South Africa.

8463

CSO: 3401/114

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

MILITARY BUILDUP OF NEIGHBOR COUNTRIES CONTINUES

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 30 Apr 85 p 13

[Article: "Military Buildup in Neighboring Countries -- Little Peace To Be Seen in Southern Africa"]

[Text] Friday's announcement by General Magnus Malan, minister of defense, that a substantial buildup of military power is taking place in South Africa's neighboring countries, and the Angolan accusation over the weekend that South African troops are still causing "tension" on the border, are clear indications that there is little question of peace so far in Southern Africa.

BEELD was told by military circles that there is talk of peace and of negotiations for peace, but the buildup of Soviet weapons in South Africa's neighboring countries came just after Nkomati and the Lusaka deliberations.

The Russians are definitely not interested in peace and therefore South Africa must remain prepared.

The fact that the defense budget may have to be reviewed again this year, as General Malan made known, is "very possible" and at this stage there can be no question of reducing military service.

It was pointed out to BEELD that the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has already stated that action would continue to be taken against SWAPO forces which operate from Southern Angola, even though South Africa has withdrawn its troops from Angola.

The "substantial" buildup of Soviet weapons in the countries neighboring South Africa, especially Angola, has been going on for the last 18 months to 2 years. Their air power in particular has been strengthened a great deal recently and they have the most advanced airplanes, radar and anti-aircraft systems at their disposal.

As far as fighter planes are concerned, Angola is equipped with, among other things, Russian SU-22, MiG-23 and MiG-21 planes. The MiG-23's and the SU-22's are among the most modern Russian fighter planes which the Russians themselves are still using. The MiG-21 is described as the AB-47 among fighter planes and it compares well with the Mirage F-1 which is used by the South African air force.

In addition, they also have all kinds of other planes as well as the MI-25 helicopter which carries a heavy load of rockets and machine guns. They are also equipped with advanced missile systems (the SAM series and especially the SAM-8 and SAM-9).

In terms of the quality of its weapons, Angola's air power can be compared with any country from the Warsaw Pact or the Middle East. Only the best is put into service here, and it is said that it is not solely for the purpose of defense.

Angola's radar reaches nearly over the whole country and to the border of Southwest Africa and the Caprivi strip. It consists of several systems -- including mobile units -- which overlap and provide an actually impenetrable buffer.

Last week, during the debate on his budget item in the Council of Representatives, General Malan said that it is tragic that South Africa's neighboring countries are being taken advantage of so unscrupulously primarily by Russia's dumping of sophisticated weapons.

Russia's increasing arms buildup in the countries neighboring South Africa is out of proportion with their security requirements. This is why South Africa needs strong armed forces. The goal of the armed forces is to be a peace power and to maintain a military balance of power.

General Malan stated that another defense budget may be necessary before the end of the year if the domestic and foreign threat against South Africa increases at the present rate. Altogether, there are 1,642 tank units, 715 airplanes and 332,000 soldiers, including 35,000 well trained communists.

"If the foreign threats, together with internal revolutionary threats continue to increase, it will not be possible to cut the defense budget."

8463

CSO: 3401/114

SOUTH AFRICA

ARMED FORCES ACQUIRE NEW WEAPONS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 9 May 85 p 14

[Text] Three modern grenade-throwers, one of which can semiautomatically fire six grenades in less than six seconds, were recently designed for the South African Army by Krygkor.

These weapons are also intended to expand the line of weaponry that South Africa produces for the export market.

In the most recent issue of the authoritative publication on international weaponry, INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW, these weapons are presented in an article accompanied by colored pictures. The article is illustrated with five photos of the weapons, and includes technical data. This is a strong indication that the article is aimed at attracting foreign buyers.

Tests Successful

According to the article, the six-round grenade-thrower is now being issued to South African Army units. The grenade-thrower is designed to harry the enemy from farther away than the maximum distance for hand grenades and from closer than the minimum distance for light mortars.

Two of the grenade-throwers, a single-round 40mm and the semiautomatic 40mm model, are equipped with a locally manufactured sight.

Some of the models can fire a wide range of ammunition, among other things antipersonnel, antitank, smoke, signal and illumination grenades.

The semiautomatic model is designed for conventional as well as anti-guerrilla warfare. That weapon weighs only 5.3 kg; 6.8 when loaded. The semiautomatic firing mechanism works on the same principle as the cylinder of a revolver, except that in the case of a grenade-thrower, the cylinder turns automatically.

The marksman need thus pull the trigger only six times in order to fire off six grenades. This weapon has already been successful in technical testing and in tests for operational use.

The South African Army, in numerous operations over the past 10 years, has been able to confirm the real value of the grenade-thrower, especially where the

vegetation is rather thick, such as on the borders of Angola and Mozambique, says the article.

A spokesman for Krygkor would not comment on the article.

8117

CSO: 3401/171

SOUTH AFRICA

NEGATIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE EXPECTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 85 p 24

[Text]

A NEGATIVE economic growth rate is expected for 1985 with all the main categories of domestic demand, except expenditure by central Government, likely to record substantial falls compared with the corresponding 1984 figures, says the latest edition of Barclays Business Brief.

According to the Brief, the volatility of the international financial markets, or a dramatic shift in domestic economic policy, could change the likely course of developments in the South African economy literally overnight.

The mistimed and unsustainable recovery of 1984 makes it probable that the next year or even the next few years will not yield a great degree of growth or any real success in reducing inflation.

The Brief sees little hope for any significant appreciation of the rand this year. Although the dollar has weakened in recent weeks and can be

expected to remain well below its recent peak of around 3,40 DM as interest rates soften for the quarter or so, there seems little chance of a dollar collapse.

If US growth picks up again later this year as is expected, the dollar could regain a substantial part of its former strength.

The rand is therefore unlikely to derive much support from a dramatically weaker dollar this year.

The Brief nails the large increases recorded in real wages as the reason for the inability to increase the rate of employment or to reduce the rate of unemployment in the South African economy during the past two business cycles.

This factor has raised the cost of labour relative to that of capital which induced business firms to substitute capital for labour which apparently pushed up the "natural" rate of unemployment to a permanently higher level.

Total real capital stock employed in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy increased by 78 percent over the 11-year period as against an increase of only 26 percent in total employment, indicating a substitution of capital for labour on a significant scale.

Main reason for the economy's failure to produce a more satisfactory rate of employment over the past decade was a general shortfall in total demand. This can be seen in the under-utilisation of production capacity in the manufacturing industry.

The rising trend in interest rates during the period probably contributed to the generally depressed state of total demand as this adversely affected the new investment constituent of total demand in the economy, the Brief states.

Rising interest rates were accompanied by the high and rising inflation rate recorded over the period for which the ineffectual economic stabilisation policy is largely to be blamed.

SOUTH AFRICA

CORN GROWERS UNHAPPY ABOUT GOVERNMENT PRICE POLICY

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 30 Apr 85 p 12

[Editorial: "Corn Chaff"]

[Text] South Africa's corn farmers are not exactly known as a group of people who calmly look after their business. Since the days of the producers organization SAMPI [South African Maize Producing Institute] some of them have earned an undeserved reputation of hotheadedness for the whole industry. Aside from the group's continuing dispute with the government, for a long period of time they were also a dividing factor within organized agriculture itself.

The latest debacle in the corn business looks too much as if it is following the same pattern and as in the past actions are being taken which cannot be good for either the country or the corn business. In protest against the minister's decisions that the producer's price cannot be raised, some of them are now refusing to deliver their harvest to the cooperatives. This in turn means that the cooperatives, which help the farmers carry their debt burden, will not be able to meet their commitments to the Farmers Bank quickly and that their burden of interest will grow.

The corn farmers' dispute about the price of corn has distant origins. In 1983, the price of corn was 167.7 rand per ton. Last year was one of the worst agricultural seasons in South Africa's history and corn had to be imported. In order to compensate the farmers, it was decided to bring the harvest price into line with the import price, and the harvest was purchased at 215 rand per ton. Since then corn has been imported much more cheaply from Red China, but the farmers demand even more to compensate them for the setback they suffered because of the drought.

What puts the corn farmers' claim in perspective is the fate of other farmers who are dependent on their product. Those people are also hard pressed. The support price for red meat has already dropped 7 percent, while dairy farmers had to introduce strict production quotas to prevent their industry from falling apart. The 51 percent price hike over a 2 year period demanded by the corn farmers could also force those businesses to their knees -- while the consumer has for a long time already been unable to assimilate the price increases.

8451

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14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

SPECIAL SYNFUEL LEVY DISCUSSED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 3

[Article by David Carte]

[Text]

SASOL says the Government will not impose the R70-million special levy on synfuel producers proposed in the Budget — but the Director-General, Finance, Joop de Loor, insists that the Exchequer 'will get the bucks'.

Dr de Loor says the money might not come from Sasol Ltd. It might come from one of its subsidiaries or "some other pocket". The matter is still being negotiated between the Commissioner for Inland Revenue and Sasol.

Confidence

A spokesman for Sasol, however, insists that the levy has been scrapped.

"Sasol naturally welcomes the decision because investor confidence would have been adversely affected. The levy would have discriminated against the synthetic fuels industry."

"As was stated in our interim profit statement on 8 March, Sasol Limited and Sasol Three will accelerate repayment of Government loans and it is anticipated that a total amount of R700-million will be repaid during the current financial year."

"Sasol, of course, cannot comment on the disposition of these funds by the Government."

But Dr de Loor said the Exchequer was not talking about loan funds. The ministers of finance and energy affairs had agreed on the procedure, and it was possible there had been a breakdown in communication.

The Budget imposed levies and additional taxes on Sasol, banks, insurance companies and all mines — the last pockets of prosperity in the economy.

Deductible

Dr de Loor said the additional taxes on Sasol and the mines were justified as they had made windfall profits on the falling rand. Asked if they would get tax relief if the rand rose, he said it was unlikely to appreciate as steeply as it had fallen.

Dr de Loor said the Exchequer would also receive the R100-million levy on banks this year, even though it would be tax deductible in future years.

"Because the banks have leases and have sold tax base, they will not have the tax base this year to make deductions. This means we shall receive the R100-million budgeted for this year, but less next year as the banks' tax base increases. This will assist them build up their capital bases."

Dr de Loor's firm stand implies that the Department of Finance is serious about its tough Budget proposals and will not lightly increase its borrowing requirement, even though this has been pegged at low levels.

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACK MINERS TO FIGHT JOB RESERVATION

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 8 May 85 p 8

[Article by Joshua Raboroko]

[Text]

MILITANT black mine-workers are to resist low wages, job reservation and other forms of exploitation in the mine industry this year.

They will also resist assaults, abuse and become more militant in demanding equal rights, opportunities and trade union rights.

This message was spelt out by the general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, when addressing a mainly white audience at the South African Institute of Race Relations on Monday night.

He warned mine managements that black mineworkers were no longer prepared to become submissive and will use weapons, other than strikes, to fight for their rights in the industry, which is a pillar of South Africa's economy.

Strikes

Mr Ramaphosa's hardline policy comes in the wake of mass dis-

missals of miners by one of the country's giant miners, the Anglo American and the Anglo-Vaal following strikes at goldmines.

The workers — about 26 000 in number — were dismissed apparently over their concern for safety. They believed that they were in danger, because of inadequate supervision of blasting operations.

Several mine strikes have occurred this year so far, concerning wages, safety, unfair dismissals and funeral arrangements. These were mainly in the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

In his hard-hitting address, Mr Ramaphosa did not pull his punches when he announced that black miners were angry and will fight to the bitter end for their rights.

In the past, black miners were often referred to as "kaffirs", "pickanin" and often assaulted by white miners. They have since changed their attitudes and retaliate when abused.

"This is so, because

they now have union rights, which means protection. The old days are over and mine managements can now expect workers to offer resistance to those who do not want to listen to blacks.

'Baas'

Although the Master and Servants Act has been repealed, some white miners still believe in being called "baas" and black miners have resisted this, Mr Ramaphosa alleged.

"We will fight this and other injustices which dehumanise our members, especially underground. We are aware that some head offices do not know of these incidents.

Mr Ramaphosa said there will be further disruptions in the mines if the managements did not defuse the time bomb — the arrogant behaviour of white minders underground.

He announced that the National Union of Mineworkers is due to start its annual negotiations with the Chamber of Mines. This year "we have resolved to bring the issue of job reservations to the round-table."

The Chamber has held talks with white unions on the issue and have excluded us — the very people whose problem needs to be solved. If the chamber does not meet our demands on this issue then we shall be forced to put pressure on them.

For far too long now, he added, has this issue been on the table and the time is ripe that it be abolished or the Chamber will be forced by the Government to introduce legislation on it. "We cannot wait any longer," he said.

They wanted job reservation to go in the mines and the wage gap to be narrowed. Wages have been the major source of strikes in the mines and that is why the union has been blamed for being "trouble-shooters."

"This we deny as absolute nonsense because black miners are lowly paid. The mine industry is reluctant to negotiate with the union in good faith.

Opposed

In answering a question, Mr Ramaphosa said his union was opposed to the migratory labour system and it must be done away with. However, this system did not affect the union's membership.

The union has connections with overseas unions and was intending to spread its wings in Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland. "We have had difficulties in the so-called homelands, but have trained shop stewards in one "state."

His union also has an informal relationship with the Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers Union. "We have exchanged ideas on some important aspects but there is no formalisation so far."

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY FOR MAJOR OVERHAUL OUTLINED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 15 Mar 85 p 22

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text]

SOUTH Africa's industrial development strategy is to be overhauled. Particular attention will be given to secondary industries and export promotion.

A White Paper outlining a more streamlined approach to Industrial development was tabled in Parliament yesterday by the Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Dawie de Villiers.

The motivation for the new strategy, the Government noted, was that real gross domestic product in the decade up to 1983 had averaged 2.6 percent — almost half the figure anticipated.

Major role

The Government said that to meet the required growth, it was the manufacturing industry in particular which would have to play a major role in creating jobs and improving productivity and competitiveness.

Dr De Villiers told The Citizen in an interview he would invite formal nominations for appointment to a new advisory body to be set up.

Incentives

He said that the new move was closely linked with steps to consider existing export and production incentives — and to make them more cost effective.

Incentives would be improved and streamlined, tailored to various sectors — and "not just to put money into pockets."

The White Paper stresses the encouragement of secondary industrial development through improved productivity and export promotion.

It emphasises the importance the Government attaches to continued industrial development for the creation of jobs and the improvement of living standards, and the general welfare of the country's population as a whole.

Consultation

Dr De Villiers said that the maintenance and expansion of foreign markets was regarded as one of the most important factors to increase the demand for industrial goods — and thus facilitate the growth of secondary industry.

Already the Government, in consultation with the private sector, was reviewing the existing export incentives to make them more effective.

This would be linked with a special strategy to bring about better co-ordination between import replacement and export promotion.

In this, the Government would make more studies of growth and export potentials on a sectoral basis — to be able better to handle specific problems and needs of particular sectors.

However, he said that the strong emphasis on exports did not mean that domestic demand for goods and services was being disregarded by the government as a further possibility to promote Industrial growth.

Protection

The Government accepted that industrial development in South Africa was not possible without protection — "the Government states clearly that it has never espoused any so called 'free trade' policy," said Dr De Villiers.

Successive South African governments had subscribed to the principle of industrial protection for more than 60 years and very high protection was sometimes given against disruptive competition from imports.

The White Paper stressed the importance of the gradual and systematic changeover from quantitative import restrictions to tariff protection — a process which had been under way since 1972.

This was designed to create more competitive market conditions and to enable local industry to adapt to them.

Special attention would be given to the more productive utilisation of the country's available resources. Particular stress was laid on the importance of technology for the country's further industrial development, in addition to the steps taken to improve and adapt education and training systems.

Information

Action to be taken included the establishment of a central information service in the Department

of Trade and Industry where industrialists would be able to obtain advice on all the requirements of the different Government institutions with regard to the erection or expansion of factories.

The Government had instructed the Central

Economic Advisory Service to formulate, in close co-operation with the Economic Advisory Council, a national economic strategy to serve as a framework for the co-ordination of economic policy measures.

Assocom Welcomes New Moves

THE chief executive of Assocom, Mr Raymond Parsons, said that the White Paper strongly contradicted the view of people who claimed that the disinvestment and sanctions campaign in the USA was a "blessing in disguise".

Mr Parsons said that Assocom welcomed the broad thrust of the economic philosophy underlying the new strategy, and the way in which it reaffirmed the Government's commitment to the private enterprise system.

At the same time it emphasised the need for flexibility in the South African economy in meeting the new challenges of a changing world economy.

"It is a positive and confirmatory document which will facilitate business planning," he said.

A clear message was the extent to which the future economic development in South Africa would have to be export orientated.

"This will require outward looking economic policies, substantial productivity improvements and a competitive cost structure," he said.

Meanwhile Assocom was still concerned about the country's high rate of inflation.

"Inflation will have to be reduced if the right framework for economic growth is to be created for the future and if we are to

remain internationally competitive," he said.

The emphasis on export promotion contradicted the "blessing in disguise" view of people on disinvestment.

"South Africa needs to maximise her external economic relations and contacts to underpin long term economic growth.

"Even if foreign capital should be less available for economic or political reasons, there would remain an even greater need for us to expand export markets to create adequate jobs in the future," said Mr Parsons.

Although Assocom welcomed the fact that local industry was assured of continued moderate and selective tariff protection, the White Paper made it clear that import replacement had decreased in significance as a growth factor, and was accompanied by increasing problems and costs.

"Assocom sees the White Paper as a focus, not a substitute, for decision making on future economic strategy by the Government and the private sector.

"Ongoing consultation between the authorities and the business sector will be the instrument through which the development guidelines in the White Paper can be adapted to changing circumstance," said Mr Parsons.

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

MOST UNIONS POLARIZED, BAQWA CLAIMS

Johannesburg THE STAP in English 3 May 85 p 11

[Article by Anna de Jager]

[Text]

The present structure of unions in South Africa readily assumed the pattern of governmental structures and there are far more polarised unions than multiracial ones, says Mr Wilby Baqwa, industrial relations manager of Barlow Rand.

He was speaking yesterday at a seminar in Springs on labour relations within local government. The seminar is organised by the Institute for Municipal Personnel Practitioners of Southern Africa.

Mr Baqwa said black unions tended to see their role as encompassing the need to correct variances in the workplace, socially, educationally and also politically.

"The lack of black advancement into senior levels is seen as being a derivative of the social and political structures of this country. We face

the untenable quandry where labour problems are inter-twined with political philosophies.

"All or most of the issues are entangled in the political structures of this country and tend to seek solutions via the political route," said Mr Baqwa.

He marvelled at the way farmers had kept workers relatively happy for years. They have a basic way of doing things by entrusting the induna with tasks such as ploughing, reaping etc. "We in the industry believe in continuous surveillance, probably because we lack confidence in each other."

Mr Baqwa said there was a need for employers to solder partnerships with their employees. Commerce and industry tended to ignore the importance of the continual improvement of basic relationships with their em-

ployees, he said.

Employee organisations even demand annual reports of companies, to ascertain the size of profit margins.

Professor J Piron of the School of Business Leadership at Unisa, said dismissal of employees was a fairly simple matter in South Africa until the introduction in 1980 of the unfair labour practice definition in the Labour Relations Act and the transfer of the discretion to grant status quo orders, from the Minister

of Manpower to the Industrial Court.

Professor Piron said the path of dismissal was fraught with danger. "Dismissal procedures are becoming increasingly important, and well-constructed dismissal procedures should contain essential points of procedural and substantive fairness."

Professor Piron said procedures were merely guidelines and could never be a substitute for well thought-out management decision-making.

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

NAMPO CALLS OFF MAIZE BOYCOTT

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 2

[Article by Paul Bell]

[Text]

THE National Maize Producers' Organisation has cut short its boycott and instructed farmers to carry on deliveries to co-ops from today.

Nampo secretary Mr Tobie Lombaard said the organisation's executive would meet the Minister of Agricultural Economics, Mr Greyling Wentzel, in Pretoria this morning.

It is understood the agenda for today's meeting will be decided on the spot, although it is certain there will be an attempt to repair some of the bridges blown up in last week's showdown between the Government and Nampo.

The Minister also issued a statement yesterday reassuring consumers that there would be no maize shortage at current rates

of delivery.

He said it had been established that maize farmers had already delivered about 550 000 tons of new crop maize to agents of the Maize Board.

The Minister "extended his gratitude to maize farmers who, in spite of the present tense situation, reacted positively to his appeal to continue delivering maize in the national and their own financial interests and thereby preventing shortages".

The boycott was initiated at a mass meeting of farmers in Klerksdorp last Friday after a stormy meeting between Nampo bosses and the State President, Mr P W Botha, in Cape Town on

Thursday.

Mr Botha would not reverse his decision to hold the producer price at last year's level of R218 a ton.

Farmers have obviously realised an all-out fight with the Government would have serious financial implications for individuals.

It is also understood that Nampo may be feeling somewhat doubtful about the depth of support it has in the maize farming community. There are, it is understood, about 31 000 deliverers to Maize Board agents, and only 4 700 Nampo members.

Many maize farmers are known to have actually supported the Government's stand.

CSO: 3400/250

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

DISINVESTMENT MOVES IN UNITED STATES DENOUNCED

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Disinvestment, Self-Indulgence"]

[Text]

To any sensible person the concept of disinvestment in South Africa is reckless, cruel and naive. Economic despoilation leading to revolution will not necessarily bring ultimate freedom. It is also manifestly hypocritical.

As United States Ambassador Herman Nickel said recently: "The striking feature of the rhetoric of the disinvestors is its elitism." And that is precisely the depredation most critics see in apartheid.

There are two cases in point. One is the Smithsonian Institution in Washington deciding to examine its investments in companies that do business in South

Africa. Another is a vote by the trustees of Georgetown University to liquidate their investments in companies that fail to sign the Sullivan Code.

It is hardly a scientific point of view.

The same charge of hypocrisy can be levelled at some trade unions abroad. While advocating disinvestment on the one hand, they are quick to cry foul on the other when black workers are dismissed in South Africa for any reason at all.

And some local black leaders have fallen into the same trap. In their case, the charges are even harder to refute. Added to them, moreover, must be one of political self-indulgence.

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACKS CLAIM MINING BLASTING LAW BROKEN

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 1

[Article by Amrit Manga]

[Text]

CONCERN for safety may have been the main reason for the strike at Vaal Reefs mine which led to 18 000 black miners being fired.

The National Union of Mineworkers says black miners believed they were in danger because of inadequate supervision of blasting operations.

The miners say that the Mines and Works Act, which sets aside blasting for "scheduled persons" who must be white, is being widely breached by mines.

Underqualified blacks, say miners, are charging up and "barring down" afterwards — some of the most dangerous operations in mining.

Anglo denial

Cyril Ramaphosa, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, says the mining industry is riddled with contraventions of the Act.

The Government Mining Engineer was not available for comment.

Anglo American Corporation says that its mines operate strictly within the law. But one source says head office may not know what goes on underground.

The National Union of Mineworkers, which represents about 8 000 of strike-ridden Vaal Reefs' south division workers, claims blacks were required to charge up

without supervision from certified white miners.

Management says work related to blasting was done in terms of the workers' contracts and complied with the Mines and Works Act.

Although the dust seems to have settled after strikes at Vaal Reefs and Anglovaal's Hartebeestfontein mines, labour observers believe the damage to industrial relations will have far-reaching consequences.

Labour consultant Andrew Levy says: "This is only the beginning of labour unrest. Worse can be expected in the next six months when talks to scrap job reservation begin."

"The mass dismissals at Vaal Reefs and Hartebeestfontein served only to raise militancy."

The union says Anglo American will take workers

back after reassessing the NUM's strength.

A labour lawyer says: "The dismissals were intended as a deterrent to black miners. It was a reminder that strikes would not be tolerated."

"Negotiations on job reservation start soon and the mining houses cannot afford continued labour unrest."

The NUM is in dispute over a 10% wage increase granted to a small section of Anglo American miners. The dispute affects 98% of its work force.

The union is also in a dispute with Gold Fields over a holiday pay agreement, affecting about 65 000 miners.

The NUM has applied for a Conciliation Board to hear the dispute. The mining houses can oppose this. If the NUM's request fails, a legal strike could be called.

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MILLIONS POUR IN TO OFFSET DISINVESTMENT COUNTER

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 7

[Article by Ciaran Ryan]

[Text]

WHILE multinational companies are fielding calls to pull out of South Africa, a Johannesburg-based company has succeeded in attracting foreign investment of R13.5-million.

Another R22-million has been generated in South Africa and 4 000 jobs have been created.

Alkhan, an industrial decentralisation consultancy, has sifted through the myriad of tax laws, incentives and allowances in various parts of the sub-continent so it can advise investors on the best locations for their businesses.

Carrots

Contrary to the popular belief that investors are attracted to the homelands because of the incentives, South African towns like Newcastle and East London and Garankuwa in Bophuthatswana are the most popular locations, according to a director of Alkhan, Abrie Coetzee.

He says decentralisation incentives are not the primary reason for building plants. Incentives are of short-term nature.

"Their businesses must be viable without any outside assistance before they consider moving here.

"We conduct a study on the best location for the investor's business. Most are interested in South Africa because of its low labour costs so we have to compete with South America, Costa Rica and the Far East, all of which have varied and interesting packages to offer."

Patriotic

Alkhan does not promote investment in South Africa out of a sense of patriotic duty. It may recommend Botswana or Mozambique to investors, says Mr Coetzee.

Offshore investment has become a major feature of world trade and nations compete vigorously for a slice of the cake.

Mr Coetzee says negative publicity about South Africa has hindered Alkhan's attempts to promote South Africa abroad, particularly in the United States. Alkhan has contact offices in Taiwan, New York, Hong Kong and Milan.

CSO: 3400/250

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

PHASE ONE OF KHAYALITSHA DEVELOPMENT COMPLETED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 11

[Article by Ciaran Ryan]

[Text]

PHASE 1 of the Khayalitsha township development near Cape Town has been completed in only 37 weeks at a cost of R95-million.

The 5 000 houses and a shopping centre were built by three major contractors — Wimpey, Bester & Co and Murray & Roberts.

An estimated 2 000 families have moved into Khayalitsha from the nearby Crossroads squatter camp.

The next phase of development is expected to start later this year and will cost R110-million.

R20 rent

Khayalitsha will ultimately accommodate 250 000 people in 40 000 dwellings. Completion of the township will take 10 years.

Occupants rent houses at R20 a month compared with an economic R120.

This raises a question mark as to whether there will be many takers when the houses are put up for sale under 99-year leasehold because bond repayments will far exceed R20 a month.

This could present the Western Cape Administration Board with severe liquidity problems, delaying development until funds are available.

Landscaping

Controversy has arisen over what some critics call the bleak and windswept site chosen for Khayalitsha near False Bay, 35km from Cape Town.

The Western Cape Administration Board replies that

conditions at Crossroads can no longer be tolerated and that Khayalitsha is the only available site large enough to accommodate 250 000 people.

Each house has two rooms covering an area of 27m² and each stand covers 80m². Khayalitsha represents a departure from the familiar four-by-four, row-on-row housing developments that have characterised black townships.

Urban designer VZS Consultants says each unit can be extended in a variety of ways at little inconvenience or expense to the occupant.

Tony van der Spuy, of VZS, told Business Times: "The township incorporates parks and walkways and R1-million is being spent on landscaping. The lesson of past mistakes in black township planning heaped in the urban design of Khayalitsha."

Four towns

Khayalitsha will comprise four separate towns and a central business district when complete. A major drawback of black township design in the past has been the absence of commercial centres, underlining their dormitory nature.

The houses will sell for about R13 000 when 99-year leasehold rights are granted later this year. Employers and building societies will be asked to help workers to buy houses.

In what appears to be recognition of the semi-permanence of squatters, up to 6 880 "illegal" families will also be accommodated in Khayalitsha in tents on concrete blocks. But that is insufficient for the estimated 20 000 "illegal" families at Crossroads.

14 June 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

DEPRESSED BUILDING INDUSTRY SEEKS NEW MARKETS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 11

[Article by Kerry Clarke]

[Text]

THE building industry, facing a substantial drop in demand for white housing, has been urged to look at the black market as a possible lucrative alternative.

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) says members are showing increasing interest in the black market.

But NAHB chairman Riley Schachat says it should be tackled with caution.

Companies in the black housing market warn that sound financial backing is essential to avoid cash-flow problems.

Barely dented

The market looks tempting for builders. The shortfall in black housing, according to a conservative Government estimate, is 170 000 units, excluding the national states. Builders are barely denting the shortage.

Gough Cooper and Schachat Cullum between them provide fewer than 1 000 houses a year to black buyers.

However, one of the major problems facing builders is the serious shortage of serviced land. If a builder provides the services he has to spend between R2 500 and R10 000 on each stand before he can start laying bricks. The outlay can put a serious strain on a small builder's cash flow.

The high cost of establishing services, registering leaseholds and bonds and working through the mountain of paperwork precludes large companies from offering low-priced housing.

Optimistic

They are selling only to the middle- and upper-income groups — Schachat's cheapest home for blacks costs R30 000, and Gough Cooper's cheapest is R23 000, excluding land.

Matthew Nell, general

manager of the Family Housing Association, an Urban Foundation housing utility company, estimates that big builders and the building society development corporation providing houses from R25 000 up wards, are catering for only 5% of black home buyers. He adds that this is an optimistic estimate.

Alex Rabie, marketing director of Gough Cooper's black housing division, says: "The private sector cannot be seen as the answer to the shortage — many people have to be helped by the Government."

Rob Crockett, executive director of Schachat Holdings, identifies another major problem in the black housing market. There are no established routines to follow and attitudes and procedures which affect the home builder operating in the black townships change constantly.

Schachat has put executives to work at clerical jobs in an attempt to avoid administrative delays.

Bond delays

Some builders report long delays in bond registrations. Schachat has appointed drivers to take buyers to attorneys' offices to sign bond documents.

Mr Crockett says many clients find it difficult to reach an attorney's office and a bond registration can

be delayed for several weeks. Mr Rabie says: "Without detailed knowledge of the steps to follow, the documentation required and the people involved, it is difficult to build houses for blacks."

Mr Nell suggests that developers get together and make suggestions to amend legislation affecting the administration of leasehold.

Land is also a problem, say builders. Although there is sufficient stock on the East and West Rand for the time being, there will be a serious shortage if township boundaries are not extended.

Small parcels

Land is scarce in Soweto, and Mr Rabie believes densities there should be increased. There is no provision for high-rise developments. However, he acknowledges that such developments could be difficult as the concept of sectional title is foreign to black buyers.

Mr Nell agrees that land is tight in Soweto and most of it is in small parcels which have been rezoned.

He says high rise is not a proposition while land prices are set far below the market level.

"People develop high rise to make good use of expensive land. If all land costs are uniform, as in Soweto, there is an economic disincentive to develop high rise."

SOUTH AFRICA

UNION STEPS IN TO SAVE JOBS AT COCA-COLA

Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 10 May 85 p 3

[Article by Claire Pickard-Cambridge]

[Text]

ONE of the most successful union negotiations to reduce lay-offs has been achieved by the Food Beverage Workers' Union — a Cusa affiliate — with the Coca-Cola Bottling companies on the East and West Rand.

Union spokesmen, who met management yesterday, said 203 workers from three Coca-Cola factories had been faced with losing their jobs but the company had reduced the number to 63 after negotiations this week.

Spokesmen said the first lay-off announcements had been made in February and would have affected 104 workers at the Bedfordview and Benrose plants.

After negotiating with the union, management reduced the number to 20. The rest of the workers agreed to working on a rolling-leave system which entailed taking unpaid leave every sixth week.

Last week Coca-Cola announced that 99 workers would be laid-off at its Devland branch but, after negotiations, only 43 will be affected.

Workers had indicated through the union that they were willing either to go on rolling leave, work every 20 days and forfeit two days of their monthly pay, or put in a limited

amount of unpaid overtime to save costs.

Union spokesmen said management had also agreed to implement some of the options suggested by the union to save the jobs of remaining workers.

The cost saving measures would include the rolling leave system, early retirement, a total ban on overtime work, a halt on new employment, no casual labour and a limited freeze on expenditure on capital equipment by management.

They said these were the first lay-offs by Coca-Cola and an agreement had also been made with the company that there would be no more redundancies this year.

They said the lay-off packages granted by the company had been satisfactory and some workers had opted for voluntary retrenchment.

Union officials are still discussing the position with but criteria for lay-offs have been agreed and consist of a policy of last-in, first-out, key skills and work attendance records.

Company spokesmen could not be contacted for comment yesterday.

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

ESCOM EXPANSION PROJECT DETAILED

Johannesburg NEW CONSTRUCTION NEWS in English 6 May 85 pp 10-11

[Text]

PROJECT: ESCOM EXPANSION PROGRAMME CIVIL (CAPE)
SITE: Eastern Cape
VALUE: R200 million
AUTHORITY: Electricity Supply Commission (ESCOM)
 Escom House, 88 Buffalo Street, East London 5201/P.O. Box
 667 East
 London Manager East Cape Sytem - Mr K L Garman
 TEL (0431) 39911

STATE AND DETAILS: It is Escom's policy to decentralize its activities and Escom has decided to strengthen the three Cape regions by amalgamating them into one large region which will deal with all Cape matters.

The expansion programme entails:

- 1) Construction of a new line between De Aar and Port Elizabeth to serve the electrified railway system. The remaining portion of the Cookhouse/Port Elizabeth section will be completed later this year. The cost of this project which consists of approximately 450 kilometres of very high voltage lines and 15 sub-stations is \$31 million.
- 2) Duplication of the transmission system of about 300 kilometres from de Aar to Cookhouse, scheduled for completion later this year - VALUE - R51 million
- 3) Reinforcement of the transmission system to the East London area. This entails the construction of nearly 300 kilometres of extra-high voltage lines and a major in-feed substation at an estimated cost of R68 million. Tenders for this 400 kV line will be invited in May. This project is expected to be completed early in 1988.
- 4) Erection of approximately 250 kilometres of very high voltage lines and 17 substations between Bloemfontein and East London to provide for the

electrification of the railway system. Tenders for the Springfontein line to East London will be invited in June 1985. This will be undertaken in phases. VALUE: R51 million (current money values)

5) Reinforcement of the transmission system to the Port Elizabeth area. This will require the erection of about 120 kilometres of ~~high~~-high voltage lines and a major in-feed sub-station at a cost (based on present unescalated estimates) approximately R35 million.

This reinforcement is likely to be required in early 1990's.

CSO: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

NATION'S FIRST SCIENCE PARK DESCRIBED

Marshalltown SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE in English Mar 85 p 146

[Article by R. D. Marcus]

[Text]

South Africa's first Science Park is taking shape at the University of the Witwatersrand's Sandton Complex. Strategically located along the N1 and N3 freeways leading to the North and South, and East and West, respectively, the Science Park is already gaining substantial support from both local and international industry.

A visitor to the site will note that the Wits' concept of a science park is slightly different from the traditional kind in the United States and Great Britain. In particular, Wits' Science Park is not only catering for the high technology developments so urgently required for South Africa, but is also concentrating some of its efforts on what is called development technology. The term 'appropriate technology' (whatever that may mean) is taboo there.

The original occupants of the park, the Materials Handling Research Unit and the MechaTronics Research Facility, have now combined their resources to form UWtec. UWtec represents a major step forward in inter-university cooperation and presents an interesting package for industry. The accent on its operation is the involvement of all Departments within the Faculty of Engineering in a cooperative venture to provide a one-stop service for industry.

The two partners in UWtec are the Departments of Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering and their research divisions, the Materials Handling Research Unit and the MechaTronics Research Facility. Already other Departments, including Mining and Metallurgy, are in the advance stages of moving some of their activities to the Science Park.

UWtec has been set up with the aim of meeting both the requirements of the University as a teaching organisation as well as the needs of industry in terms of assisting in areas of development where highly skilled personnel are required. The proponents of UWtec believe the University must have formal links with industry. This is because they recognise that universities are unlikely ever to be able to provide faculties of engineering with adequate funding for the purchase of high technology equipment, and are concerned that graduates from South African universities will soon otherwise have no exposure to such equipment.

UWtec has been structured rather like an engineering com-

pany for control purposes but on the financial side stringent regulations apply to all academics making use of the facilities. UWTec, by virtue of the fact that it is sponsored solely by South African and international companies, cannot allow its facilities to be abused by academics using it to line their pockets.

UWTec has a staff of 64 actively pursuing a wide range of research and development activities. On walking through the laboratories the visitor can observe the development of a low technology robust pump for agricultural purposes in rural areas in contrast to the ultra-sophistication of experimental computer systems to provide 'vision' for robots.

The divisions operating at UW Tec include Warehousing and Physical Distribution; Hydraulic Conveying; Pneumatic Conveying; Computer Integrated Manufacturing and Robotics; Computer Engineering; Inventories and Production Systems; The Desmond Bolton Road Transport Research Facility; Bulk Solids Handling and Belt Conveying; Development Technology; Industrial Electronics and Instrumentation.

UWTec is seen to be the Faculty of Engineering's direct link with industry. Fundamental research work is carried out on a small scale at the main university campus; once the work has progressed to the stage where trials on a full scale should be carried out, the academics will move their activities to the Science Park. UW Tec has maintained the original stance of the Materials Handling Research Unit and continues to practise its original experimental philosophy in attempting, where possible, to carry out all research work on a full scale.

The visitor is impressed with the work being done in the pipeline transportation of solids; in this respect the UW Tec facility is one of the largest research operations of its kind anywhere. Scattered around the laboratory is equipment from all over the world and it is worth noting that UW Tec is currently carrying out research contracts on behalf of companies in Germany, Japan and the United States.

The ability of UW Tec to carry out work for multinational companies has further broadened its horizons. The UW Tec personnel have thereby gained valuable experience by being exposed to foreign working methods. The centre strives to keep abreast of all modern technology. Its personnel attend conferences and present lectures at most major international gatherings in their particular area of interest.

A number of organisations outside the university framework are establishing themselves on the site. They see mutual benefits by being associated with the specialist research and development facilities for engineering concerns that UW Tec provides. The centre is also setting up a centralised workshop to complement the existing common technical and computing facilities, the financing of which is shared by all participating bodies.

In these and other respects UW Tec has worked out a formula which achieves an excellent working relationship with local and foreign industry, yet perhaps the most exciting feature of the Science Park to date is the large number of postgraduate and undergraduate students to be seen making use of its facilities.

SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OUTLINED

Marshalltown SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE in English Mar 85 p 108

[Article by Professor Jennifer Thomson]

[Text]

In September 1981 the CSIR, in response to a letter to its president from a group of concerned scientists requesting co-ordination and accelerated national funding for molecular biology, held a one-day colloquium on 'Biotechnology, the State-of-the-art in the Republic, and its Industrial Potential'. After this meeting an *ad hoc* task group was appointed under the chairmanship of Professor O.W. Prozesky. Over a period of six months the task group surveyed relevant biotechnological expertise in South Africa and investigated manpower needs and job opportunities.

Its recommendations included:

- the need for cooperation in and co-ordination of the existing far-flung and scattered activities;
- the need for a national body concerned solely with research in biotechnology;
- the need for a 'home' to stimulate, fund and co-ordinate research and to build bridges to industry;
- the urgent need for a national effort to remedy the situation before South Africa fell irretrievably behind other Western nations.

It proposed the following:

- an organisational entity for the development and co-ordination of biotechnological research in the form of a National Research Facility for Biotechnology, closely linked to centres of excellence at universities and research institutes;
- intensive training programmes;
- the involvement of industrial entrepreneurs in both the above.

At the final meeting of the *ad hoc* Biotechnology Task Group in March 1982, a sub-committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Professor D.R. Woods to draw up a national research programme and budget, and to determine national priorities. Again the sub-committee emphasised the importance of a national research programme to be carried out by a national laboratory and a number of smaller, decentralized groups in existing centres of excellence.

In order to obtain an independent assessment of biotechnology in South Africa, the CSIR invited Dr Marc van Montagu of the Rijksuniversiteit, Ghent, a leader in the field, to visit South Africa in November 1982. Dr van Montagu recognised existing centres of excellence, but pointed out that 'no central organization helps or fosters the different university units or research institutes to acquire the new molecular biology techniques'. He commended the supportive role of the MRC but said that the Department of Agriculture had 'ignored the recent developments in molecular biology and genetics'.

Dr van Montagu proposed:

- the creation of a national institute for pure and applied molecular biology;
- the co-ordination of the research effort and the funding of existing centres of excellence;
- improved training programmes.

He envisaged the national institute as being under the control of a director, who was an active scientist, and a scientific advisory board of outstanding scientists in the field. Accordingly, on 1 January 1984, the Executive of the CSIR appointed Professor

Jennifer A. Thomson as its Advisor on Biotechnology and head of a newly created CSIR Laboratory for Molecular and Cell Biology. This enabled her to have a CSIR-funded operational base while planning the national programme. In this planning she was assisted by an advisory committee of senior scientists in the field.

The strategy proposed by this group, which was submitted to the Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Committee last April, followed closely the recommendations outlined above, namely:

- a National Laboratory of the CSIR under the control of a director and answerable to an advisory committee;
- decentralized groups of the National Laboratory situated in existing centres of excellence;
- an intensive training programme at the PhD and postdoctoral levels, both here and abroad.

As it was considered desirable to integrate the National Laboratory closely with existing groups working in biotechnology, the CSIR Laboratory for Molecular and Cell Biology, which will form the base of the National Laboratory, has been established at the University of the Witwatersrand, in close association with the School of Biology.

Research areas in the National Laboratory in the first instance will include:

- the development of vectors for the expression of industrially important genes;
- the development of strains for the biological control of plant and animal diseases;
- the development of biological systems for the analysis of water purity and for waste treatment.

Regarding the decentralized groups, it is

envisaged that scientists throughout the country will be invited to participate in the programme of the National Laboratory as decided by its director and advisory committee. Participation will be considered on merit of expertise assessed in the light of the overall contribution to the national programme. It would be naive to think that we in South Africa can compete in the development of processes or products already well advanced in other countries. It is therefore important to concentrate on research areas where South Africa's unique advantages can be exploited or its unique problems solved.

The question may be asked, Why try at all? Why enter such a highly competitive field? Why not just import the products or the know-how? Apart from the obvious answer that taking such a backseat openly invites mediocrity and will cause us to lose our brightest scientists, South Africa has many unique attributes that can be exploited, and certainly has some unique problems that no other country will be interested in solving.

The 'plus' side includes our mineral wealth, which is amenable to 'biological mining' and many unique biological products of plant or bacterial origin. On the 'minus' side are unique plant and animal diseases and the severe water shortages which force us to look to novel solutions. Moreover, even if we were merely to import the know-how, we would need suitably trained and experienced personnel to exploit it and adapt it to local conditions.

In conclusion, the strategy outlined here is aimed at fostering research, co-ordinating activities, aiding collaboration and helping to bridge the gap both between scientists in all disciplines who are involved in biotechnologically related fields, and between such scientists and industry. □

SOUTH AFRICA

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEADER'S REPORT PUBLISHED

Johannesburg IIR INFORMATION SHEET in English Mar 85 pp 3-6

[Report of the director of the Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 21 March 1985. In order to appraise members who were unable to attend this meeting of the position and direction of the organisation, the report of the director is published in place of the usual editorial feature.]

[Text]

In returning to my report for 1983 I notice that I started with the statement that it had been an extremely difficult year for the Institute. In reviewing 1984, I realise that I might have better reserved that comment for this report - if 1983 was extremely difficult, 1984 proved itself to be even more so. However, the picture is not entirely a dismal one.

With only R17 058 - half a month's operating costs - as an accumulated reserve, the Institute was faced with the task of generating R412 596 for the year. Of this R140 812 was accounted for by way of membership subscriptions; the remainder (R271 784) had to be created by the staff of the Institute itself, through training, seminars, publications and advisory and consulting services. This required the generation of over R1 000 a working day, every working day of 1984. With the recession deepening during the year, restrictions on tax concessions for training being introduced, increased competition from consultants, lost markets owing to moves to in-house training, and, in the light of the fact that the Institute experienced the loss (for various reasons) of its entire professional staff except for myself, and a large proportion of its administrative staff, I am not unduly upset with the organisation's completion of the year with a R16 756 deficit. The result reflects an improvement in performance over the previous year, despite circumstances.

It is customary to thank those contributing to an organisation's performance at the end of an annual report - in the light of the Institute's results under very stressful conditions I wish to break with tradition. To all those who staffed the Institute during 1984, I express very personal thanks for the exceptional quantity and quality of work produced; all the extra hours, nights and weekends invested; and the uncomplaining willingness shown as you were thrown into the deep end on a wide variety of tasks often within days of arrival. A further per-

sonal appreciation is extended in respect of the level of personal support given to me over the year.

I am not a believer that the governing bodies of community based organisations such as the Institute should assume background roles - particularly in a field as pivotal as industrial relations, and particularly when the organisation is under strain. As a consequence I think members of the executive found themselves harried, with varying degrees of diplomacy by a rather inexperienced and somewhat anxious Director. To those members of the executive who responded so supportively and gave active direction to the organisation during 1984 we all owe gratitude.

My thank you's early in my report serve another function - I wish to finish looking ahead rather than thanking for the past. In saying this, I wish to add a deep concern with some patterns that are emerging with increasing salience in the industrial relations field. The development of "camps" based on ideological and practice preferences is, perhaps, an inherent feature of industrial relations. The practitioner community is a small one in South Africa but it is riven with differences, with perceptions of ideological or organisational "ownership" with interpersonal issues. This has become easily translated into critical attacks on personalities and organisations. Central issues of concern are lost by virtue of who is raising the issue rather than the significance of the issue itself. There is a shortage of willingness and ability to debate without attack, and we as practitioners and academics directly involved in the game of conflict resolution are in some danger of aggravating the problem.

The Institute was established as a bridging organisation between labour and management. Since its inception it has suffered accusations of being too management oriented, of being a big corporation's industrial relations unit, of being a

sell-out to the unions, of being too conservative, of being "pink," of being guilty of "rhetorical drivel" and so on. We have had the experience of companies feeling we have become too political because we publish, monthly, a list of detained trade union leaders and, similarly, a reluctance to participate in the organisation or active withdrawal from it by trade unions who feel that as a bipartisan body we are inherently conservative, or because we are seen as too management oriented, or because another union camp is perceived to wield influence in the Institute. And, of course, there have inevitably been ongoing concerns about the Director and staff of the organisation, their belief systems, experience, backgrounds etc.

All these concerns are legitimate. By virtue of the nature and objectives of the Institute it will inevitably not be entirely acceptable to everyone in all that it says, or does. What is of concern, is the expectation that it should be.

The Institute was established by labour and management to facilitate their communications, joint interests, understanding and skills and abilities in problem-solving and conflict resolution:

Its basic objective is to promote effective collective bargaining – It is a bridging organisation

It was not set up by its staff, it was not set up to compete with a plethora of industrial relations' consultants for its daily existence; it was not set up to pander to the views of either labour or management or particular ideological camps within these.

The staff of the Institute expect to carry responsibility for the management of the organisation, to give it direction in the light of its bipartisan mandate, and by virtue of its unique constitution and objectives to be involved in an ongoing process of lobbying and negotiation on behalf of the organisation's goals across a broad front of employer, worker, state and media interests for its credibility. I wish to clarify that I have strong personal commitments to the objectives of the Institute – criticism, conflict, treading the credibility minefield, and organisational responsibilities in leading the organisation in its attempts to achieve its objectives are parts of the job I willingly accept. However, several major concerns have arisen – not all of them have answers, all of them must be addressed.

HOW HAVE WE DONE SINCE 1976

On certain levels I believe the Institute can take a justifiable pride in its achievements since its inception:

- Over 550 courses have been run, attended by nearly 9 000 delegates since 1978;
- over 30 seminars on salient I R issues have been organised bringing together labour and management representatives;
- over 300 students are registered for its diploma courses, introduced in 1983;
- it produces a monthly publication – the Information sheet – on industrial relations which has steadily improved in qual-

ity over the years, and receives regular acclaim;

- it has made submissions to relevant authorities on industrial relations issues;
- its staff are often included in a quiet background manner in assisting organisations on IR problems

A REVIEW OF 1984

Events and circumstances in 1984 have served to raise matters of central concern to the Institute's continued existence, its objectives and its activities. I shall report on two levels: What the Institute did in 1984, and the problems emerging from the experience of the year under review.

FINANCE

A review of the Institute's financial results since its inception reveals that without a degree of external funding it would not have completed a single year without a deficit. Before moving to 1984's results, let me make the observation that these circumstances have been the consequence of the nature of the organisation's structure and services rather than its management. Further, the expectation that the Institute be financially self-sufficient off a base of no capital has seriously distorted its mode of operation, and thus its objectives and credibility as a bipartisan body.

1984's results reflect a deficit of R16 756, reducing accumulated funds to R302. Needless to say this is not a result which gives rise to any feeling of financial security. Positively however it represents an improvement over the previous year's results, despite more difficult circumstances. Substantial reductions were achieved in staff costs. Despite a smaller manning situation an increase in training and seminar income was achieved. The turnaround was reduced by:

- An increase in recruiting costs owing to labour turnover; (R972 – R4 013)
- increases in advertising and seminar costs to remain competitive; (R15 378 – R52 282)
- the cost of subsidising trade union attendance of courses and seminars; (R7 240)
- the costs of running the diploma course; (R14 000)
- late cancellations of training bookings; (R70 000)
- sharp drop in the training and seminar market in the last three months of 1984 resulting in a shortfall against budget of R11 000

MEMBERSHIP

Corporate membership of the Institute remained relatively stable during 1984:

- employer membership rose by 12,3% (195-219);
- individual membership rose by 36% (181-246);
- trade union membership dropped by 32% (25-17);

Of concern is the decrease in union membership, although a number of resignations occurred as a consequence of mergers with other unions already members of the Institute. The increase in individual membership I strongly suspect to be at the cost of corporate membership.

TRAINING

The training market was badly affected by the recession, tax concession constraints, competition from consultants and increased levels of in-house training. Public courses were relatively stable: 23 courses attended by 271 delegates being run in 1984 over 21 courses and 239 attendances in 1983. However, in-house courses dropped by 50% from 91 in 1983 to 46 in 1982, and participants from 1 196 to 615.

Of significance during the year was that the Institute still managed to generate R233 045 from activities in this field, assisted to a significant extent by a large labour law seminar in May. Positively, new courses have been devised, existing ones revised and the use of external experts initiated to improve quality of services. Special thanks are due to Halton Cheadle, Clive Thompson and Roy Dinsdale in this regard. Valuable contributions were also made by Messrs. Brand, Cheadle, Brassey, Piron, van den Berg, Schuster, East, Riley, Lemmer, Nel, Douwes-Dekker and Botha through their willingness to present papers at our seminars.

INFORMATION

Information continued as the core service of the Institute through publication of the Information Sheet, use of the library and direct and telephonic queries. During the year a new booklet on Job Evaluation by Dan Mbatha was published, and we are in the final stages of production of a larger book comprising papers on bargaining, dismissals and productivity.

STAFFING

During 1984 and into 1985 the Institute lost the services and had to replace its entire professional staff (except for myself) for reasons ranging from establishment of consultancies, to further study, and more attractive job packages, and a number of core administrative personnel for reasons of pregnancy. The consequence of this turnover has been costly and disruptive aggravating difficult circumstances.

So much for a review of 1984 as a year of strain in the Institute. Of greater relevance is an examination of the problems of the Institute, and what it must do if it is to remain in existence.

PROBLEMS AND PLANS

Despite the severity of the problems experienced in every aspect of its functioning during 1984, the Institute is still here, and:

- it has new but committed staff;
- it has revitalised its services;
- it managed to reduce its deficit over the previous year.

Further there are encouraging signs of interest in the Institute from some previously distanced quarters. We have more trade union work booked for 1985 than in previous years, and elements of the union movement that for a long period have distanced themselves have appeared on both trade union and public courses for the first time. After a dismal start to the year, in-house training bookings are running at budget level and there is room for a little optimism that we will not end the

year with a deficit. This is dependent however on whether subsidisation will be obtained for the diploma course and trade union training and to the response to the special levy requested of members.

PROBLEMS

1984 has highlighted several problems as regards the Institute's functioning:

The expectation that it be self-sufficient has led to an over-dependence on training and seminars for its income. The organisation's vulnerability to changes in this market have been somewhat cruelly exposed. A lack of capital reserves, coupled with the fact that a significant part of its target population have a limited capacity to pay market rates has exacerbated the problem. Financial strains have had the consequence of distancing the Institute from its original objectives. We are not currently a proactive agent in the field in terms of addressing on a joint labour-management basis issues of common concern, we have not responded to NMC documents or commented on new legislation. We have increasingly served management because they could pay (and because of demand) and we have had limited research and development opportunities. We find ourselves having to compete with the consultants to keep afloat, but covering institute-type overheads which no self-respecting consultant would carry. In brief expectations of self-sufficiency have elements which are inherently in conflict. I believe we have become distanced from the original objectives of the organisation and now find ourselves having to compete for survival on a handicap basis. Within the organisation there is a feeling akin to blowing up a balloon with a hole in it - exhaustion without achievement. We have been so concerned with keeping the organisation financially afloat that we have had little time to address in what direction it is moving.

This loss of direction is confirmed with a change of emphasis on the basis on which our activities are assessed. Increasingly we are measured on a direct cost-benefit basis by organisations. As a consequence, people prefer individual to corporate membership; we have to compete for business with consultants which, at some point, we will lose owing to our bipartisan concerns; we cannot address core issues owing to ongoing immediate needs for revenue. **The Institute is neither owned, nor was it established, by its staff. It was established by labour and management representatives in industry to promote and develop sound industrial relations practices in South Africa.** I suspect we are being measured against other objectives.

The central questions are: Do labour and management want an Institute? If so what do you want it to do? What are reasonable measures for its functioning? How should its activities be financed? At present, the majority of finance comes from the activities of its staff. The expectation that the staff fund, live out and give direction to the commitments of those who established the organisation to the extent they currently do is, I believe, untenable. It clearly is not going to work out on this basis - the situation has all the ingredients for second-rate performance and disillusionment on the part of all concerned.

PLANS

Identifying problems and bleating about them is clearly not sufficient. The following plans are in motion:

FINANCE

To maintain Institute expenditure as low as possible. In the immediate, staffing will be kept skeletal; we have sublet a portion of our premises and all possible steps are being taken to reduce daily expenses without dropping quality of service too significantly. The Board of Trustees imposed a levy on members which has raised R30 000. Although a disappointing response, grateful thanks are expressed to those who responded so promptly – the sum is significant enough to make the difference between a surplus and deficit in the budget.

Approaches have been made to various sources of funds to subsidise loss-making activities and attempts will be made to establish a funding base broad enough to prevent accusations of "ownership" by a particular source.

Finally, ongoing training and seminars should provide income. Although booked to budget levels, sweeping cancellations early in the year have made matters more than a little uncertain in this area.

TRAINING

Training courses are being updated, new courses have been devised and external experts more closely involved in their presentation. Every opportunity will be made to keep ourselves in the public eye in this respect. During the course of the year we hope to establish a panel of accredited institute trainers to present various of our courses and hopefully to alleviate some of the pressures experienced by our staff.

CLOSER LIAISON WITH LABOUR AND MANAGEMENT

To reduce the distancing process already discussed, closer involvement with our membership is required. Certain issues

significant to IR in this country: disclosure of information, the right to strike, disinvestment, collective bargaining structures and procedures, technological innovation, legislative changes, productivity and economic growth need to be addressed. If the Institute is to become a vehicle for joint labour-management statements and guidelines, it requires reshaping. The Director cannot by himself make joint labour-management decisions or statements. This can only occur if closer participation from labour and management occurs – and this can only be the consequence of a desire by these parties to have an institute and make use of it in this way. If this element is missing then major questions surround the very existence of the organisation. Our current mode of existence is not viable in any ongoing sense – in terms of goals, activities, finance or participation.

In order to bring about a change in this area, a special working affairs/action focus will be introduced as part of the functions of the executive committee. Its task will be to meet with the staff of the Institute, to address current concerns, develop labour-management guidelines where possible and to participate in the organisation and running of seminars on current issues. If we are to move from the periphery of IR back into a more central, proactive role **members** must breathe life into the organisation. Clearly the organisation will not make a meaningful contribution if it is left to an isolated staff with limited resources and an ongoing financial crisis to make all the running.

In conclusion I am fully aware of the fact that we are in a recession – this fact more than any other has precipitated the need to revise the Institute's objectives and functioning. This cannot be done in isolation or as a one-off exercise, nor can it be done without active participation by its members. The Institute could grind to a halt if obliged to continue in its current fashion – definite action steps are required. If the towel is to be thrown in, it will not be from within the Institute, but by its membership.

CS0: 3400/250

SOUTH AFRICA

NEED FOR COOPERATION IN CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS DISCUSSED

Pretoria BEELD in Afrikaans 25 Apr 85 p 14

[Article by Piet Muller: "Enough Talk, Come Up with Proposals!"]

[Text] Now we are making progress!

President P.W. Botha's invitation to opposition groups to become members of the special government committee which is to consider black political input, has released new energy. Energy which is essential because we cannot continue to dawdle with black rights much longer.

Following the referendum and the elections for coloreds and Indians a slight slump occurred here and there. So much energy had been spent getting the country over those two hurdles that there was hardly any energy left for black political rights.

Clear

Two factors however provided urgency to the matter: first of all, the spectacular progress made with regard to the rights of the Asians and the coloreds caused the pent-up frustrations of the blacks to bubble up and, together with the need and misery caused by the depression, this created a particularly volatile atmosphere.

Since last year's troubles in Sebokeng, South Africa really has not known any peace. It was clear that the country had reached a turning point in its history. There can no longer be any delaying and a solution must be found now for just black demands.

It is true that a special government committee has given continuous attention to constitutional development for blacks, but nobody can claim that they have made any spectacular progress. As a matter of fact, it has been said openly in the halls of the civil service that when so many capable ministers, who are striving for the highest political honors in the country, are serving on a single committee there cannot be much hope for progress -- they watch each other too closely for that.

The fact that President Botha did not intend to dawdle with this anyhow was made clear when he announced, during the opening session of parliament, that a special talk forum with black leaders would be established.

The tragedy at Uitenhage has given a special urgency to this talk.

The fact that the majority of the opposition parties have accepted the invitation to become members of the committee means that black political rights have now at least partly been lifted from the political arena and are being seen as a matter of national interest. The fact that the Conservative Party turned up its nose at the invitation may be something that they will regret later on.

Statements

Now the important step of negotiations with black leaders can begin. The degree of importance which at least some black leaders attach to such talks may be inferred from the fact that both Captain Gatsha Buthelezi and the Reverend Alan Hendrickse have recently made particularly interesting and responsible statements about the country's political future.

Such a committee could once again pay attention to the proposals made by the so-called Buthelezi Commission (which served at the invitation of Inkatha) and the Lombard Commission (consisting of a group of scholars from the University of Pretoria) concerning the political future of Natal.

A couple of years ago, Minister Owen Horwood, as Natal leader of the National Party, pushed those proposals too quickly off the table. The two sets of proposals show remarkable resemblances and provide thought provoking models of how black and white cooperation can be achieved on a regional basis.

Federation

The Reverend Hendrickse once again touched on the possibility of some form of federation or other -- an idea which has also been much discussed in recent years by Afrikaner academics.

If one further recalls that in the past numerous homeland leaders have already expressed themselves in favor of a federation, one realizes that federalism could be a realistic basis for discussions.

This week President Botha once again outlined the responsibility of the special committee when he said: "We do not want any more discussions. We have had enough discussions. What is needed is concrete proposals, solutions for South Africa which can be tested."

Explosion

These words apply equally to black leaders. The time has also come for them to stop talking in the wind and to come up with concrete proposals. It no longer serves any useful purpose for them to stand there with a bishop's mitre on their head and to fold their hands piously and then spout all kinds of

platitudes. Now moral indignation must be turned into moral responsibility and morally defensible concrete proposals.

Black leaders who are talking so happily about a national convention will also have to realize that there are matters which will have to be thoroughly studied before we can ever get to that ideal. A convention is not necessarily a solution to a country's problems; it could just as well be the ignition of an enormous explosion -- everything depends on how thoroughly the deliberators have done their homework beforehand.

It is politically naive to assume, as Bishop Tutu once again did that evening in Johannesburg, that the millenium will dawn if we can just get rid of "apartheid." Rather, learn from the fact that apartheid was an unsuccessful attempt to solve the country's problems. Even if we could conjure the last remnants of it away overnight, this would still not do anything to the prickly political reality of South Africa.

Refusal

It is for these realities that we must find a workable solution. And we are not going to find it with American television cameras or on Capitol Hill in Washington.

No more can a solution be found if we refuse to talk with some of those black leaders who are busy stirring up "the revolutionary climate."

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CSO: 3401/116

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

DIGITAL TV TECHNOLOGY--A new generation of technology, digital TV, will arrive in South Africa in 1987. Harry Rosenblatt, managing director of Tedelex Sound & Vision, says mass production of digital sets has not begun and they will not be freely available in South Africa before 1987. Several manufacturers hope to have a model on foreign markets this year. The sets will be made in SA, and will require a huge outlay on new infrastructure by producers. The prospect must be a little daunting to an appliance industry whose sales of TV sets have plummeted in the past six months. Mr Rosenblatt says digital sets will not be significantly cheaper than analog models, even when mass produced. [Excerpts] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 30]

FMU-BOILERMAKERS' MERGER--The majority of the Federated Mining Union (FMU)--one of two black unions recognised by the Chamber of Mines--has merged with the multiracial 50 000-strong SA Boilermakers Society (SABS). This means that the SABS, which is party to wage talks with the Chamber for white miners, could be negotiating alongside the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) at this year's pay talks for black miners. Following a ballot to determine support for the idea FMU members--on diamond mines near Kimberley, gold mines in the Klerksdrop area and workers in Rustenburg--elected to link up with the SABS. Negotiations are still in progress to forge unity with members at JCI's Rustenburg Platinum mine, where the FMU is recognised. The SABS has also announced that Mr Ike van der Watt, former general secretary, has been elected executive president and that Mr Okkie Oosthuizen has been elected general secretary. The merger with the FMU has put the SABS in the unique position of representing black and white miners and being party to both blocs of unions on the Metal Industrial Council. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 3]

TAIWAN SEEKS SA TRADE--The success of last year's South African week in Taiwan has prompted the giant Far Eastern Department Stores (Feds) group to expand the concept to 10 stores this year and offer more than R1-million worth of SA goods. The vice-president and managing director of Feds, S J Par, and the director of international trade, H M Ying, were in South Africa this week on a buying mission to equip their Taiwanese stores for the second South African promotion at the end of this year. They were assisted by the South African Foreign Trade Organisation (Safto), the Department of Trade and Industries, the South African embassy in the Republic of China and the SA-Republic of China Chamber of Economic Relations. Feds has so far placed orders worth R1-million with South African suppliers. The produces include biscuits, dried

fruit, skins, dried flowers, ostrich eggs, gemstones, curios, canned fruit, meat, honey, fruit juice, blankets and towels. Feds is part of the R2-billion Far Eastern Textiles group, whose activities include cement production, garment manufacturing, transport, construction and advertising. Taisaf, a company formed in May last year, will act as shipping agent for Feds. Ted Coote, the founder of Taisaf, is chairman of the SA-Republic of China Chamber of Economic Relations. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 5 May 85 p 6]

NUM REACHES AGREEMENT--The Namaqualand division of De Beer's Consolidated Mines has concluded a recognition agreement with the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM)--a breakthrough for the union in the remote north western Cape. It is also the first time that the predominantly African NUM has been recognised on a mine with a majority of coloured employees. A De Beer's spokesman said they were in the process of "finalising a recognition agreement" with the NUM, though it is understood the agreement will be signed this week. The spokesman said negotiations leading to the agreement had started after the NUM showed it had more than 50% representation among the mine's 2 500 employees. De Beer's already has a recognition agreement at its Kimberley Division with the Federated Mining Union, which recently merged with the SA Boilermakers' Society. A spokesman for the NUM said the agreement was significant for the union as it had succeeded in organising wrkrs in a very remote part of the world. The only other emergent union to have recognition in the area is the General Workers' Union, which has organised workers at Jowell's Transport. [Text] [Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 13 May 85 p 2]

MULTIRACIAL UNION OPPOSES DIVESTMENT -- The South African Boilermakers Union, one of the most influential multiracial unions in the country, yesterday took a strong stand against "all forms of divestment" in South Africa. In a strongly worded proposal which was unanimously adopted at its general council meeting at Kempton Park, the union declared itself against divestment and also instructed its executive committee to keep close track of the campaign in America and to take the necessary steps against it. In giving reasons for the proposal Mr Arthur Johannes, member of the union's executive committee, said that the boilermakers had taken note with regret of the statement made by Mr John Vanderveken, first secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions [ICFTU], that he is willing to let some job opportunities in South Africa be wiped out "for the sake of the victory of one political faction or another." "In the first place, the position recently adopted by ICFTU in Washington to the effect that freedom is more important than a job, serves only one goal and that is to isolate unions like ours, which are working for change in South Africa, from international contact. This will involuntarily weaken us in our struggle for justice in South Africa," he said. "It is unbearable that the executive administration of an international union organization, which is proud of the fact that it works for the freedom of the workers and their alliances, is betraying the interests of the South African workers in this manner," said Mr Johannes. Afterwards a proposal was adopted in which the union expressed its concern that any flowing out of capital which is currently invested in South Africa, will lead to "the loss of jobs, economic stagnation and political chaos which is irreversible." [Text] [Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 23 Apr 85 p 4] 8463

AV SUPPORTERS VOTED OUT -- Bloemfontein -- The night before last, the executive committee of the Bloemfontein Cultural Council which earlier this year had granted affiliation to branches of the Afrikaner People's Guard [AV], was completely voted out. All rightwing elements were excluded from the new committee. The election at the annual general meeting of the Cultural Council was characterized by attempts from rightwing elements to get their candidates elected to the committee. However, the more than 100 delegates voted overwhelmingly in favor of a completely new executive committee. The constitution of the Cultural Council was thoroughly altered during the meeting, which lasted more than 4 hours, to prevent AV branches from becoming members of FAK [Federation of Afrikaner Cultural Associations] without more ado. Criticism was also directed toward that side of the former committee. The new executive committee consists of Professor Jan Senekal, chairman; Professor Pierre Theron, vice chairman; Dr Frik van Heerden, secretary; and Mr Buks Fouche, treasurer. Mr T.D. Potgieter, Mr Jan Stemmet and Mrs Nicolene Swanepoel are additional members. Professor Johan Strauss, who was voted out as chairman and member of the executive committee, was unsuccessfully nominated for three positions. In all three cases, he was nominated by Mr Alex Danzfuss, a supporter of the KP. Other candidates who were unsuccessfully nominated for the executive committee were Messrs Jan Lamprechts, Pikkie Louw, Alex Danzfuss and Professor Calvin Lombaard. Even before the designation of the new executive committee, a part of the draft constitution according to which members of the Cultural Council would directly become members of FAK, had already been scrapped upon a proposal from Mr Gannie Viljoen. The feeling was that FAK should not be tied into this connection. [Text] [Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 May 85 p 8] 8463

EDITORIAL ON DRUG USE -- Drug addiction is not something South Africans only read about in foreign magazines or in story books. It is a horror which we are experiencing in our own lives. The month before last, SANRA [South African National Research Association] advanced the distressful view that drug related deaths are common in South Africa. The community, and parents in particular, have been confronted with upsetting data about drug abuse and addiction among children. The seriousness of the problem is reflected by the arrest of 20,753 people between July and November of last year for drug related offences and the confiscation of 1 million rand worth of drugs. Equally disturbing news was the claim by the marketing director of a large American pharmaceutical firm, Mr Ray Suttner. According to him there is a large surplus of illegal cocaine in the world and South Africa is used as an unloading location. The smugglers find a good demand here. The consequences of drug addiction do not need any clarification. They are unfortunately all too well known. We can, however, become aware with renewed anxiety of the British experience where more and more babies are born addicted, the result of addicted mothers. That is undoubtedly the most terrible hereditary sin a mother can pass on to her child. However, greater awareness of this problem in South Africa -- thanks to the dedication of people such as Dr S. de Miranda from SANRA -- is encouraging. That awareness has now penetrated into our highest legislative council chambers. A government committee has been appointed to do research on the incidence of drug abuse in general. In the Council of Representatives the minister of health and welfare, Dr Murugasen Padayachi, has announced specific research on the problem in Indian schools. This is more than welcome. All parents, teachers, schools, municipal councils, as a matter of fact any body or organization which has responsibility for our physical and spiritual well-being, should become involved in this matter. [Text] [Johannesburg DIE VADERLAND in Afrikaans 19 Apr 85 p 10] 8463

AWB OFFERS POLICE HELP -- Pretoria -- The Afrikaner Resistance Movement [AWB] of Mr Eugene Terr'Blanche yesterday handed a motion of thanks here to the police for their maintenance of "law and order," as a giant banner they carried together proclaimed. Following the AWB meeting in the town hall, during which AWB leaders put strong emphasis primarily on the "restoration of the Afrikaner republic," roughly 2,000 people marched to the Sunnyside police station three blocks away. The motion, which was addressed to the police commissioner, stated that the AWB is always at the disposal of the police for the maintenance of order and the protection of people and fatherland. [Text] [Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 May 85 p 8] 8463

MOTORCYCLES USED IN BORDER PATROL--Bloemfontein: Conditions in the operational zone were getting a bit beyond the capabilities of the ordinary motorcycle used by the army for patrols, but the staff of Krygkor put their heads together, and the Cricket was born. In the recent issue of Krygkor's personnel newsletter, SALVO, the motorcycle--or "Cricket," as it has been named--was presented. It is designed for conditions in the operational zone and needs only minimal maintenance. Characteristic of this new field cycle are its two wheels of equal size. The Cricket will be used chiefly for patrol work and follow-up operations, but it is just as much at home on the open road. It can attain a speed of 170 km/h. In tests in which the Cricket and commercial motorcycles were subjected to a testing ground, the Cricket came out at the head of the list. Repair costs to several of the other models amounted to 750 rands, while the Cricket needed not a single replacement part. [Text] [Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 8 May 85 p 15] 8117

ANIMOSITY BETWEEN RIGHTIST PARTIES -- The position taken by Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg the evening before last in Port Elizabeth that the Conservative Party [KP] and the Reformed National Party [HNP] have actually already decided that there should be only one party on the right, will surprise few people. These days those two parties are like Tweedledee and Tweedledum. The policy of the one looks like that of the other. Actually it is Dr Andries Treurnicht's policy which now looks like that of Mr Jaap Marais. Since Dr Treurnicht and his followers strayed from the path of the National Party which they had followed until they split off, they unabashedly started to take over the HNP policy, and later accepted it completely. Yet it should be interesting to hear what Mr Marais has to say about some of his followers and he cannot be enthusiastic about the prospect of his party being completely swallowed up by the KP; even less about accepting Dr Treurnicht, a political enemy of many years, as his new leader. It is a poor consolation to be just the unchallenged ideologue of the far right. Even though Dr Hartzenberg believes that the matter has become urgent now and would like to see the two parties united before the end of the year, he admits that there are "still a number of small differences." As an example he mentioned the KP plan for an Indian homeland. But according to him this could be overcome. We have to agree with that. The KP is so used to swallowing HNP policy that it ought easily to do it again. A much more thorny problem is the distribution of constituencies between the two parties. However much they gloss things over, in some areas it could also have the ironic result that their divisive behavior toward the NP will benefit the far left. [Text] [Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 1 May 85 p 8] 8463

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